STARS STRIPES.

Maryland hands No. 2 Duke its first loss

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Americans in Kuwait on alert Page 5



Loss from Irag's deadliest day felt from Hawaii to Va.

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 28, 2005

Troops moving in to bolster security

U.S. stakes out Baghdad perimeter as Iraqis guard voting sites



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Ne ws Tracker ... What's new with old news

States

Archdiocese sex scandal case: A man testified that the now-defroeked priest at the center of the Boston Archidiocese sex scandal would wait for him in the bathroom with the lights off, pull him from catechism classes and rape and fondle him in the church pews, confessional and rectory.

The man, now 27, recalled Wednesday how he saw Paul Shanley silhouetted against the hallway light, his hands outstretched in a priestly pose. He said the abuse began at age 6 and continued until 1889, when he was 12.

Robert Blake trial: Robert Blake's handyman was afraid police were going to raid his apartment after the actor's wife was found shot to death, a witness testified at Blake's murder trial in Los Angeles.



The handyman, Earle Caldwell, had left town before the May 2001 shooting death of Bonny Lee Bakley, according to his former girlfriend, Lisa Johnson. She said Caldwell called her the day_after the shooting.

day after the shooting.
"He wanted me to go
to his apartment and remove his computer, all
of the paperwork on his
desk notes on a bulle.

desk, notes on a bulletin board and some sweat shirts," Johnson told jurors Wednesday. "He was afraid police would serve search warrants and he would lose his possessions."

Gay custody battle: A woman whose daughter was adopted by her former lesbian partner has lost a court battle to regain custody in Houston.

The Texas Supreme Court declined Friday to hear a request by Julie Ann Hobbs of Galveston to dismiss a lawsuit filed in May by Janet Kathleen Van Stavern for joint custody and standard visitation of the 6-year-old girl.

Hobbs and Van Stavern were together for eight years, ending in February 2004. Hobbs conceived the girl through artificial insemination and gave birth in 1998. Van Stavern adopted Hobbs' daughter in 2001.

A court date regarding Van Stavern's request for joint custody and standard visitation is set for April 4.

Michael Jackson trial: The prosecution wants jurors in Michael Jackson's molestation trial in Los Angeles to have their own screening of a British television documentary about the pop star, a show that the defense denounced as "heavily edited in the work contributional fashion specified."

ry about the pup start, a snow that me defense denounced as "heavily edited in the most sensational fashion possible." Broadcast in February 2003, "Living With Michael Jackson" was the trigger for an investigation leading to Jackson's child molestation case. It contains footage of Jackson holding hands with the child who has alleged he was molested by the entertainer. In their motion to use the tape, prosecu-

In their motion to use the tape, prosecutors said its broadcast prompted Jackson and unindicted co-conspirators to abduct and imprison the accuser and his family, and to "extort" from them an agreement to appear in a "rebuttal" video.

New BTK evidence: A package purportedly tied to the BTK serial killings was found after a local television news station received a postcard directing it to the scene, a television station reported.

The Wichita, Kan, station KAKE-TV-broke into its afternoon programming Tuesday to air footage of a cereal box leaning against a traffic sign along a road, but did not disclose its contents at the request of police. Wichita police did not return calls to The Associated Press for comment.

The postcard mailed to the station had the ame "S. Killett" and the address of BTK's



Schwarzenegger approval ratings: California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, right, shakes hands while visting the PATH Residential Service Center, near downtown Los Angeles, on Tuesday, A survey from the Public Institute found 60 percent of Californians favor the way the Republican governor is doing his job, but 49 percent of Democrast disapprove. Six in 10 independent voters still give Schwarzenegger high marks, but the number of independents who disapprove of him has almost doubled, from 18 percent late year to 32 percent.

first victims, the Otero family, written on Little return address KAKE reported

Paid columnists: President Bush ordered his Cabinet secretaries not to hire columnists to promote administration agendas after disclosure that a second writer had been paid to assist an agency.

"All our Cabinet secretaries must realize that we will not be paying commentators to advance our agenda," Bush said at a news conference. "Our agenda ought to be able to stand on its own two feet."

Bush's remarks came a day after syndicated columnist Maggie Gallagher apologized to readers for not disclosing a \$21,500 contract with the Health and Human Services Department to help create materials promoting the agency's \$300 million initiative to encourage marriage.

Three-strikes sentence: If she were a prosecutor anywhere else in California, San Francisco District Attorney Kamala Harris wouldn't get a second look for using the state's tough "three-strikes" law against a man who spent more than six years in prison after settling his 6-year-old son on fire.

But with Charley Charles, formerly known as Charles Rothenberg, heading to trial Thursday on weaponspossesion charges

enberg, heading to trial
Thursday on weapons-possession charges
that could send him to
prison for life, Harris
faced a battle against
the social climate in
one of the nation's most
tolerant cities.

Charles' case is also watched because of his past. When he was known as Charles Rothenberg, he soaked his

son with kerosene and set him ablaze in a Southern California motel amid a custody dispute with the boy's mother. The boy, David, survived but suffered third-degree burns over 90 percent of his body.

Suspended judge resigns: Concord, N.H., Judge Franklin Jones, suspended for groping five women at a conference last year, resigned hours after a committee emphatically recommended that he not get his job back.

"I wish to again express my apologies to those who have been impacted by my inappropriate conduct," the Rochester District Court judge said in a letter to Gov. John Lynch and other state officials.

Jones, 56, said he regrets any embarrassment he may have caused the judiciary.

World

Zhao memorial service: China said Thursday it will hold a weekend memorial for ousted Communist Party leader Zhao Ziyang as authorities kept a tight watch on activists in an apparent effort to stem any public commemoration.

The "body farewell ceremony" will take place at 9 a.m. Saturday at Babaoshan Cemetery in Beijing, the main cemetery for revolutionary heroes, said a Chinese Cabinet official who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The official said foreign reporters are barred from the event, which has a lower status than a state funeral.

Trouble in Sudan: The U.N. envoy to Sudan on Thursday called for the immediate release of three Sudanese employees of an American Christian aid agency who were abducted last month in South Darfur.

The workers, well-drillers of the Maryland-based Adventist Development and Relief Agency International, were captured at gunpoint on Dec. 16, according to the aid

Violence between rebels and the government has plagued the Darfur region for nearly two years, killing over 70,000 people and displacing over 2 million.

Jan Pronk, the U.N. envoy to Sudan, said the responsible groups would "be held accountable for their acts," according to a U.N. statement.

Weapone ban in West Bank: The Palestinian leadership banned civilians on Thursday from carrying weapons, its latest step aimed at reining in militant violence, as the Palestinian leader said he was awaiting Israel's response on a proposal for a mutual cease-fire declaration.

If enforced, the ban on weapons would be a strong move against militant groups, whose gunmen often openly brandish their automatic weapons in the streets of Gaza and the West Bank — reflecting the lack of control by the Palestinian security forces.

In the next step to impose order, the Palestinian security forces were preparing to move into the volatile southern Gaza Strip to prevent rocket and other attacks into Israel, extending their control from the northern part of Gaza, where they deployed earlier.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

U.S. troops hike Iraq election security

BY CHRIS TOMLINSON

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD - U.S. soldiers around Baghdad stepped up operations Thursday ahead of the Iraqi election, moving to forward positions around the capital until the end of balloting while toughening security at their main bases, a brigade commander

Hundreds of soldiers assigned to the Louisiana National Guard's 256th Brigade moved out from Camp Liberty, located near Baghdad's main airport, to take up positions at the smaller bases scattered around the city ahead of Sunday's vote.

U.S. troops will not be positioned at polling sites — Iraqi forces will be on guard there. But deploying more troops outside of the main, heavily guarded bases will enable them to respond quickly if needed by Iraqi forces, said Brig. Gen. John Basilica.

"We're hoping to enable the Iraqi securi-

GIs move to forward positions, base security boosted

ty forces to be successful in defending the polling sites so their countrymen can vote," said Basilica, the commander of the brigade. "It's a critical time for them.

At the same time, security at the main U.S. bases will be ratcheted up to protect support troops from attack, Basilica said.

Altogether, about 300,000 Iraqi and multinational troops will provide security for the vote with Iraq's U.S.-trained forces taking the lead role

The Iraqi Defense Ministry said Thursday it would deploy an additional three battalions, or 2,500 troops, to help guard the elections. "We will prevent any terrorist attacks during the voting," the ministry said

Insurgents have promised to disrupt the voting with car bombings and other attacks, and U.S. and Iraqi officials have warned of increased violence in the days

ahead of the vote. The election is for a National Assembly that will govern the country and draft a permanent constitution. On Wednesday, Basilica's troops got a

taste of what may be in store for them as election day nears. Insurgents fired mortar rounds at an Iraqi police station where a company of American military police are based in the suburb of Saba Al-Boor, north

Four shells fell near the station, each one getting progressively closer to the Iraq police and U.S. soldiers barricaded inside a targeting technique known as "walking up" the fire. Within minutes, Apache attack helicopters were overhead.

A patrol from E Troop, 101st Cavalry, which was in the town when the mortars fell, sent troops to look for the Iraqi mortarmen. But as happens in most attacks, the insurgents fled before U.S. troops could find

"They fire off a few rounds, jump in a car and drive away," said 2nd Lt. Shaun Joyce, the 33-year-old patrol leader.

In this case, Joyce and other officers were concerned that a spotter in the town was directing the fire, which could be intended to set the stage for a more accurate attack later, perhaps on election day.

Two of the mortars fell on brick homes. blasting holes in a wall and a ceiling. One girl was killed and six other civilians were seriously wounded. U.S. medics who treated them said. The wounded were flown to a military hospital by U.S. medical evacuation heliconter

Soldiers in the field have been given lists of suspect vehicles to stop and search. They also have names of suspected militants, but catching them is enormously difficult in a metropolitan area of more than 8 million people.

Insurgents bomb Iraqi school slated as polling site

BY SAMEER N. YACOUB The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Eleven Iraqis and one Marine were killed Thursday as insurgents clashed with U.S. troops and blew up a school slated to serve as a polling center - pre-election violence that followed the deadliest day for U.S. troops since the war's start Another IIS soldier died in an accident

The Marine was killed and five others were injured when insurgents launched mortars at their base near Iskandariyah, about 30 miles south of Baghdad.

In the capital, U.S. and Iraqi troops clashed with insurgents or Haifa street in the center of the city, witnesses reported

The attacks came after the deadliest day for U.S. forces since the Iraq war began nearly two vears ago: 30 Marines and a Navy sailor died when a helicopter crashed in bad weather in the western desert Wednesday, and six other U.S. troops were killed in insurgent ambushes [see related stories on Page 4].

Attacks have increased ahead of Sunday's national elections, when Iraqis will choose a 275-member legislature and provincial councils across the country in the first balloting since the 2003 ouster of Saddam Hussein. Sunni Muslim militants have



An Iraqi school keeper removes school records from the rubble after an explosion Thursday in Baghdad. Eleven Iraqis and one Marine wer killed in election violence Thursday as insurgents clashed with U.S. troops and blew up a school slated to serve as a polling center.

vowed to undermine the elections, fearing victory at the polls by the Shiite Muslim majority.

Three Iraqi civilians were killed Thursday in a house in Samarra, 60 miles north of Bagh-dad, when a car bomb exploded nearby, said Alaadin Mohammed, a doctor at the local hospi-

Hours later, mortar shells fell on a designated polling station in Samarra, police said.

Also in Samarra, armed men blew up a school administration building after first ordering the staff to leave, said police Lt. Oassim Mohammed. The destroyed building had been sched-

uled to be a voting center Sunday. Sporadic clashes also erupted in Samarra between U.S. troops and armed men, killing one Iraqi civilian and injuring another, Mohammed said.

In Kirkuk, insurgents attacked

and machine guns and opened fire on a police patrol, killing one po-liceman, authorities said.

A suicide car homber struck a U.S. military convoy near the northern city of Beiji, witnesses said. There were no reports of ca-

Another three Iragis were killed and seven injured when a roadside bomb missed a U.S. convoy in Mahmoudiya, 20 miles south of Baghdad, according to the area's hospital director, Dawoud al-Taie.

Near Tikrit, a roadside bomb killed one Iraqi bystander and narrowly missed another passing U.S. military convoy, police said. The attack happened on a road ear Saddam's hometown, about

80 miles north of Baghdad, said police Lt. Shalan Allawi. And in Ramadi, another Iraqi National Guard soldier was killed when insurgents attacked a joint

U.S.-Iraqi force guarding a voting center at a school, said police Lt. Safa al-Obeidi.

The body of Talib Minshid, a colonel in the former Iraqi intelligence under Saddam, was found in Baqouba, according to a hospital official, Mohammed Ali. Minshid had been abducted by armed men two days ago.

A U.S. soldier died Thursday of a gunshot wound on a base near Tikrit in what the American military command called an accident

Arab media prepares for Iraq election

The Associated Press

CAIRO, Egypt - As Iraqis prepare for their national elections, Arab media outlets are providing some of the most intense coverage in recent memory, particularly as many speculate what effect the vote's outcome will have throughout the

Arab TV airtime and news paper pages have been filled in the run-up to Sunday's vote with interviews of candidate in elections for a 275-member National Assembly, plus opinions by hordes of commentators. Many deem the U.S.-backed

polls illegitimate; others describe them as the only way out for Iraqis from the spiraling violence and bloodshed.
"Some of the media outlets

are being passionate instead of professional in their obvious opposition to the elections taking place by taking a political ing place by taking a pointeal stand instead of doing their duty as journalists," Al-Ara-biya TV chief Abdulrahman al-Rashed said Wednesday.

His station, like other Arab networks, is planning major election-day coverage throughout Iraq, including reports from the battleground cities of Fallujah and Mosul and interviews with numerous candi-

A big exception, however, is Qatar-based Al-Jazeera TV, the Arab world's first independent network, which was ejected from Iraq last year after U.S. and Iraqi authorities ac-cused it of inciting violence.

Al-Jazeera chief editor Ahmed al-Sheikh said that despite his station's ouster from Iraq, it would still pursue neutral coverage that includes interviews with Iraqis voting outside the country and analysts responding to the trends and result. Al-Sheikh said he believes the polls should be delaved to ensure greater participation from Sunni Arab Mus-

U.S. deaths in Iraq

each: and Denmark. El Salvador. Hungary. Latvia and Kazakhstan one death each

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,278 U.S. military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 971 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's num-

- The latest deaths reported by the military:
- A soldier died Wednesday from an explosive in Baghdad
- Thirty Marines and one sailor died Wednesday when their helicopter crashed near Rutbah, Iraq while conducting security
- One soldier was killed Wednesday when a patrol was attacked with grenades near Duluivah, Iraq Four Marines were killed Wednesday in
- Iraq's Anbar province.

 The latest identifications reported by the
- Defense Department and family members: ■ Marine Lance Cpl. Tony Hernandez, 22, Canyon Lake, Texas; died Wednesday when his helicopter crashed near Rutbah, Iraq; assigned to the 1st Marine Division, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Army Sgt. Brett D. Swank, 21, Northumberland, Pa.; died Monday in Baghdad, Iraq, of injuries from an explosive; assigned to the 1st Battalion, 509th Infantry Regiment, Fort Polk, La.

The Associated Press As of Wednesday, at least 1.416 members

of the U.S. military have died since the begin ning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count At least 1,080 died as a result of hostile action, the Defense Department said. The figures include three military civil-

The AP count is 39 higher than the Defense Department's tally, last updated at 10

a.m. EST Wednesday. The British military has reported 76 deaths; Italy, 20; Poland, 16; Ukraine, 16; Spain, 11; Bulgaria, seven; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two

Nation mourns troops killed on deadliest day

27 Hawaii-based Marines died in Iraq helo crash

The Associated Press

KAILUA, Hawaii - A sudden and painful reminder of the war in Iraq hit this state with word that 2 Marines from one base had been killed in the worst loss of Hawaii-based troops since Pearl Harbor.

All but three of the 30 Marines and one sailor killed when a helicopter crashed Wednesday in a desert sandstorm had been deployed from the Marine Corps base at Kaneohe Bay, according to Sen. Daniel Akaka D-Hawaii

"We are particularly feeling the effects of the war in Hawaii, ' Akaka said in a statement from his

"My heartfelt thoughts, prayers and deepest sympathies go to the families of each Marine.

The crash shook the Windward Oahu community near the base as residents awaited the names of the dead. "Your heart just sinks." said Bobbie Jerome, 34. whose Marine husband has not been deployed to Iraq

The Kaneohe Bay base is under the operational control of the 1st Marine Division at Camp Pendleton, near Oceanside, Calif. Some of the victims also were based in San Diego.

While the Marines come from hometowns across America, no single military attack or accident stands out as hitting Hawaii harder since the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor that left 2.390 people dead and

"That's a tragic story for everybody here," Bob Reeve, 71, a retiree who lives near the Kaneohe base, said after hearing the news. "We like our mili-tary here. It's going to be a sad thing."

The crash dramatically increased the death toll of servicemen with Hawaii ties in Iraq and Afghanistan to 78, including 43 Marines from the Kaneohe base.

In Oceanside, Amber Warlock, 31, a former Marine whose husband is a Marine pilot currently stationed at Camp Pendleton, said she was stunned when she heard about the crash on television.

"You hear about people dying every day in ones and twos," she said. "But 31 is just too much to comprehend.

Warlock sought solace at the beach with her 5-month-old daughter, Heidi, and a fellow Marine wife who cried at news of the deaths, even though she had confirmed her deployed husband was OK.

'You just know how every single woman sitting in her home feels, whether it's going to be yours or someone you know," Warlock said. "It doesn't matter who it is. It's a bad day for everybody

Back in Kailua, Lee Bowman, 25, a Navy medic who served in Iraq last year, said of the victims: "My heart goes out to them. I feel it's going to be hard to replace them."

Associated Press writers T.A. Badger in Texas and Michelle Morgante in California contributed to this report.



Sgt. David Tramill of Kaneohe, Hawaii, reflects Wednesday on the news that 30 Marines and one sailor were killed in a helicopter crash in Iraq. All but three of the 30 Marines and one sailor killed when the helicopter crashed in a desert sandstorm had been deployed from Marine Corps Base Hawaii at Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii, according to Sen, Daniel Akaka, D-Hawaii,

Va. loses 4 'brothers'

LYNCHBURG, Va. - Four Marines from a combat engineering company were killed and four injured during an ambush on the deadliest day in Iraq for U.S.

The four were killed in Iraa's Anhar Province and were among 36 American troops killed in Iraq on Wednesday. Thirty-one were killed in a Marine helicopter crash in the western desert.

Capt. Jamie Wagner of Company C, 4th Combat Engineer Battalion, on Thursday identified the dead as: Sgt. Jesse Strong, 24, of Albany, Vt., a student at Liberty University in Lynchburg; Cpl. Jonathan Bowling, 23, of Stuart; Cpl. Christopher Weaver, 24, of Spotsylvania; and Lance Cpl. Karl Linn, 20, of Chesterfield.

"The Marine Corps is truly a band of brothers and we lost four brothers from this company," Wagner said. "But we continue to do our jobs and continue to carry on as Marines.'

Company C, part of the 4th Combat Battalion based in Baltimore was activated in June 2003 Wagner said, and left for Iraq in September 2003. They were to return home in the spring

A reporter embedded with those troops, Jim Dolan of WARC in New York City, said the four were killed when insurgents ambushed a Marine convoy leaving the town of Haditha, northwest of



Courtesy of Linn of the far

U.S. Marine Lance Cpl. Karl Linn of Chesterfield, Va., poses with his rifle at his base in Iraq's Anbar Province. Linn was killed in an ambush on a convoy he was riding on Wednesday near Hadithah, Iraq.

Baghdad, hitting a vehicle with a rocket-propelled grenade.

Wagner, senior active duty adviser with Company C, identified the injured as: Cpl. Charles Gentry, Cumberland, Tenn.; Sgt. William Meyers of Mooresville, N.C. and Lance Cpl. Mark Miller of Bedford. Each was hospitalized with minor injuries, Wagner said. Cpl. Timothy Franklin of Lynchburg was also treated for injuries.

California military town stung by deaths Marine Corps Air

OCEANSIDE Calif - This seaside military town reacted with grief and resolve Wednesday at the news that 31 servicemembers were killed when a transport helicopter crashed in the deadliest single incident vet for U.S. forces in Iraq.

"It's terrible, but it comes with the territory," said Carl Dreibelbis, 52, an Oceanside native who served in the Navy and said members of his family have fought in every U.S. war since the American Revolution

"I'm afraid that when people hear this, their inclinations will be to retreat. But I say charge," Dreibelbis said.

Some of the victims were members of the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, based at

details were withheld pending notification of families. The crew chief onboard the helicopter, Lance Cpl.

Station Miramar in

San Diego. Further

Tony Hernandez, deployed to Iraq last summer and was scheduled to return to Camp

Pendleton in March, said his father, Lerov Hernandez, of Canvon Lake,

He said he last spoke with his son on

"He said it was cold, that he didn't

like the weather, that he was working his butt off - the usual gripes," Hernandez said. "He didn't say a lot because he didn't want anyone to worry."

Hernandez said his son tried to join

the Marines after he graduated from high school but was rejected because he was too heavy. After visiting with a recruiter again, he was soon running hard and dieting to trim nearly 25 pounds off his frame. He had lost another 20 pounds by the time he finished Marine boot camp in California.

"We went to his graduation and we almost didn't recognize him," Hernandez

"I knew [the war] was going to escalate — it was pretty much guaranteed," he said. "Unfortunately, it's the young kids who end up paying the price.

General: Iraq troops should be ready in 6 months

BY BASSEM MROUE

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD - Iraqi troops need six more months before they can take control of cities and towns, Iraq's army chief said Thursday. Afterward, it would still need help from U.S. and other foreign forces to protect the country's borders.

In an interview with The Associ ated Press, Gen. Babaker Shawkat Zebari said he was optimistic about prospects for bolstering the capabilities of Iraq's security forces - a key U.S. goal as the White House comes under domestic political pressure to reduce the American military commitment here. "God willing, during this year,

our units will be fully armed, trained and have enough soldiers," Zebari, an ethnic Kurd, said

"After all this is finished, I am very optimistic that the Iraqi army will be able to protect the territories and border

Zebari said that if Iraqi forces continue to improve, "we will be able to protect Iraqi cities and villages within six months.' Pentagon officials hope to accel-

erate the training of Iraqi security forces after the Sunday national elections so that they can assume the main role in fighting the insurgency. That would enable Washington to begin bringing home the 15,000 U.S. troops.

In remarks prepared for delivery at Johns Hopkins University. Sen Edward M Kennedy said the U.S. military presence in Iraq "has become part of the problem not part of the solution" and that the United States needs to work with the Iragis "on a specific timetable for the honorable homecoming of our forces."

On Wednesday, however, the top U.S. commander here, Gen. George Casey, said Iraqi forces were not ready to take over the fight against the insurgents and there was no guarantee they would ever be able to do so.

But Zebari said he was hopeful that over the next six months, the insurgents could be weakened militarily as Iraqi forces grow in confidence and capability.

Nevertheless, Iraq would still need U.S. help even after Iraqi troops and police assume the main responsibility for protecting Baghdad and other major cities.

The Iraqi army should benefit from presence of coalition or multinational bases to protect from any border violation by any country." Zebari said.

U.S. troops fortify polling stations in Iraq



Spc. Charles Franklin, 21, from Montgomery, Ala., pulls security during patrols of the area around newly established polling stations in Ramadi, Iraq. Franklin is with the 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment,

RAMADI, Iraq - American combat engineers and infantrymen occupied dozens of polling stations throughout Iraq early Thursday morning so they could fortify them with concrete barriers, search for bombs and prepare them for possible insurgent attacks in the run up to Sunday's elections.

In Ramadi, where insurgents and American troops have clashed on a near daily basis, members of the 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment and the 44th Engineers Battalion both of which deployed with 2nd Infantry Division units from South Korea to Iraq last fall - took several locations throughout the city

Working under cover of darkness. huge tracked-recovery vehicles moved concrete barriers into blocking positions, while engineers and soldiers laid out several layers of concertina wire.

"We are going to harden the outer pe rimeters and provide a secure place for the residents of Ramadi to vote said 1-503 commander Lt. Col. Justin Gubler, earlier in the day.

At one polling station, a relatively new train station in Ramadi, soldiers arrived around 1 a.m. to begin transforming the largely-abandoned facility into a protected area.

Squads of soldiers swept the buildings for bombs and weapons while other teams set up security measures outside. By around 5 a.m., most of the work was done, and some of the soldiers graphed a few hours of sleen

'We got done a little earlier than we thought, so the guys will be able to get



U.S. troops occupied polling sites throughout Ramadi early Thursday morning, hardening defenses against possible attacks ahead of Sunday's elections.

a little rest," said Capt, Marco Ferrara of Company D, which will guard the polling station until election day.

By morning, members of an Iraqi Special Police Commando had joined the unit. Under agreements with the Independent Electoral Commission of Iraq, only local forces will be inside the actual polling stations during the elec-

All told, more than 100,00 Iraqi soldiers and 150,000 U.S. troops will help provide security throughout the country on election day. In other Iraqi cities, insurgents have attacked or destroyed polling stations.

Ramadi was no exception

By morning, insurgents had located the troops. U.S. and Iraqi officials did not plan to announce the locations of polling places until around 48 hours before the vote. But as day broke Thursday and the soldiers finished up with the security measures, the crisp snap of a few incoming bullets whizzed overhead. In the distance, gunfire and explosions could briefly be heard coming from other quarters of the city.

By mid-afternoon, the soldiers at the polling station were receiving mortar and rocket-propelled grenade fire.

They fired back with machine guns and grenade rounds of their own.

U.S. and Iraqi patrols, using the polling stations as new temporary staging locations, then went into Ramadi to conduct patrols

E-mail Joseph Giordono at: giordonoj@pstripes.osd.mi

Soldiers spoil kidnapping in Baghdad

BY JASON CHUDY Stars and Stripes

GIs say their unplanned traffic checkpoint caught van with victims

BAGHDAD - Soldiers from the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment's scout platoon foiled a kidnapping attempt of eight Iraqis in Baghdad's Kadhimiya district Wednesday

A Ministry of Oil administrator and a few sheiks were among those rescued. Five kidnappers were taken into custody

The soldiers were patrolling Wednesday night when platoon leader 1st Lt. Jeff O'Dell decided to set up a traffic checkpoint called a TCP by the soldiers — off

The 10th Mountain Division soldiers had searched a handful of cars when a van came around the corner into the checkpoint relatively fast, said platoon member Spc. Joshua Edwards.

"He took the corner doing about 30 — that was odd," he said. "He came to a dead stop and started to back up at the same speed."

The soldiers forced the vehicle to stop by aiming their weapons at it, then went up to the vehicle.

Soldiers noticed people bound and blindfolded in the back. The

drivers explained by saying they were government security forces and those in back were their pris-When Staff Sgt. Steven Johnson

got to the van and started speaking to the driver and passenger. one of the captives spoke up. "When one of the sheiks heard

voice, he started calling for help," he said. The soldiers separated the kid-

nappers from the others, eventually escorting all of them back to their base camp. A search of the

five kidnappers and vehicle uncovered four pistols, an AK-47 as-sault rifle and a sub-machine gun fitted with a silencer, according to a military press release.

Sgt. Carl McCauley said that the soldiers were surprised at the night's events. "At first, I was like 'holy [expletive],' " he said. "I looked around and thought 'What the hell just happened?'"

"We've run hundreds of TCPs," Edwards said. "We've found stuff, but nothing that's a big deal. We got lucky

E-mail Jason Chudy at: chudyj@mail.estripes.osd.mil

Kennedy: Set timeline

WASHINGTON American military's contin-ued presence in Iraq is fanning the flames of conflict, and signals the need for a new detailed timeline to bring the troops home, Sen. Edward M. Kennedy said Thursday.

Just three days before the Iragi people go to the polls to elect a new government, the Massachusetts Democrat said America must give Iraq back to its people rather than continue an occupation that parallels the failed politics of the Viet-

While not the first member of Congress to call for a withdrawal of the troops, Kennedy is the first senator to do so

Guilty plea expected

NEWARK, N.J. - Sgt. Javal S. Davis, who was charged with conspiracy to maltreat deon, dereliction of duty for fail-ing to protect detainees from abuse, and maltreatment of deabuse, and matteaument of de-tainees, will plead guilty to re-duced charges next week as part of a deal with military prosecutors, his lawyer said Thursday.

Those charges will be dismissed, and Davis — who is not seen on any of the notorious photos from the prison will plead guilty to simple assault and rendering false official statements, his civilian at-torney, Paul Bergrin, said Thursday.

U.S. Embassy in Kuwait warns of surveillance

The Associated Press

KUWAIT CITY - The U.S. Embassy warned Americans in Kuwait on Thursday to be cautious, saving terrorists have been conducting surveillance of at least one building where Westerners live.

It was the fourth security-related message from the embassy this month.

The embassy warning message pointed to two shootouts this month between Kuwaiti police and suspected militants where two suspects and two policemen were killed

The embassy message said it has "information that the group behind the recent shootings did not distinguish between official and civilian targets and that they conducted surveillance of at least one facility known to house a large number of Western civilians."

The embassy identified the buildings as the Alia and Ghaliya towers in Fintas, south of Ku-wait City. Additional security measures have been put in place at the location, the warning message said "Heightened security awareness should be

exercised in all residential complexes, as ter rorists have specifically targeted a variety of Western housing facilities in the past," it said.

About two years ago, a young Kuwaiti was arrested with homemade explosives near the towers in Fintas. He had not used them.

The embassy asked Americans to maintain a low profile, avoid areas where Westerners are known to congregate and report any suspi-cious activity to police. Some 13,000 Americans are registered with the embassy. Many work in the oil sector and in education

Authorities have arrested more than 25 Ku waiti and Saudi suspects since the Jan. 10 and 15 clashes, Seven of them, including a woman, have been referred to the prosecution for planning terrorist attacks or failing to report such nlans to the police

Police have found large caches of weapons and explosives around the country this month

Rumsfeld dismisses report about troop levels in Iraq

BY PATRICK DICKSON Stars and Strines

WASHINGTON - Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld on Wednesday dismissed a media report that said the Army would not reduce troop numbers in Iraq at least through 2006

Speaking after a House Armed Services Committee meeting. Rumsfeld said it would be "a misunderstanding to characterize' statements made by Army Lt. Gen. James Lovelace to mean the service had firm plans to keep the force at present levels.

The Washington Post reported, and Stars and Strines subsequently printed, a story that said troop strength in Iraq at about 120 000 eol-

diers for at two least more years.

The Post quoted Lovelace as say-ing, "We're making the assumption that the level of effort is going to con-



assessment. Rumsfeld said it was routine planning for multiple scenarios

"It certainly was not an assess-

ment of any kind, and he said that very explicitly, if I'm not mistak-Rumsfeld said

"He said that the Army has to plan, it has to look forward, and it looks forward one, two, three years. And what they do is develop an assumption

"And so they said for the sake of argument, assume you kept the same level of forces there over that period, how would we meet

"Then they do various sensitivities; they say what if it's more, what if it's less? Then they say, 'How would we deal with that situation?"

E-mail Pat Dickson at:



Sgt. 1st Class Jefferson Pridgen, working with 1st Battalion, 9th Infantry, hands out election information to an Iraqi shopkeeper in the Tamim district near Ramadi, Iraq. On Wednesday, a United Nations official criticized U.S. troops for distributing election fliers.

Afghan soldier opens fire in U.S. base, killing five fellow soldiers

BY STEPHEN GRAHAM

The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan - An Afghan soldier opened fire inside a U.S. military base Thursday, killing five of his Afghan comrades before another soldier gunned him down to end a bloodbath that a commander attributed to mental problems.

Elsewhere in the troubled south, police killed a suspected Taliban commander and captured his deputy in a shootout.

The U.S. military said the soldier attacked fellow Afghan National Army troops early Thursday morning in Helmand prov-

Another six Afghan soldiers were wounded.

"The soldier who initiated the shooting was returning from guard duty at the time of the incident and, currently, no information is available as to his motives," a statement issued by the U.S. military said.

It said there was "no evidence" the attack was the work of militants

The injured were evacuated to the main American base in southern Afghanistan at Kandahar for medical treatment. There was no word on their conditions

No soldiers from the U.S.-led coalition were wounded in the attack, the statement said. Some 18,000 U.S.-led forces are still hunting al-Qaida and Taliban remnants mainly in southern and eastern Afghanistan.

Gen. Muslim Abed, a senior army commander in Kandahar, said the incident happened in a national army compound within the American base in the town of Girishk, 220 miles southwest of

the capital, Kabul He said the soldier was from

Kabul, but didn't know his name. The soldier had "mental problems," Abed said, but he didn't elaborate.

"He just entered a room and opened fire," Abed said.

The Defense Ministry said it was investigating.

Coalition forces often operate alongside the U.S.-trained Afghan army, which currently has 18,000 soldiers. It plans to recruit and train 70,000.

The army is meant to replace the private militias of warlords that still hold sway in much of the country, which is recovering from 25 years of conflict. A U.N.-sponsored disarmament campaign is working to dismantle the militias.

The captured Taliban commander, Mullah Mohammed Ullah, and his deputy Mullah Mohammed Ghafar were cornered as they traveled by motorbike in a village in Musa Qala district of Helmand province on Wednesday, an official said.

They opened fire when police tried to stop and arrest them sparking a shootout in which Ullah and one policeman were killed and three other officers wounded, said Mohammed Wali spokesman for the provincial

governor. Ghafar was wounded and taken into Afghan police custody for questioning.

Wali said the two men were Taliban leaders in Musa Qala, and had led an attack on the district chief's office last year that left at least four Afghan soldiers

He said they were also behind a bombing in the district that had killed a U.S. soldier and wounded another some months

U.S. role in Iraqi elections blasted

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BY COLUM LYNCH The Washington Post

UNITED NATIONS - The United Nations' top elections official, Carina Perelli, on Wednesday sharply criticized U.S. military forces in Iraq for distributing material urging Iraqis to vote in the country's elections Sunday.

Perelli and other U.N. officials are concerned that such U.S. military involvement is compromis-

ing efforts to convince the Iraqi public that Iraqis 44 ... [W]e have are directing the elections.

Perelli said she and the top U.N. election official in Iraq, Carlos Valenzuela, have been asking, begging military com-manders" to stop the distribution of material promot-ing the elections. Officials from the U.N.-backed Iraqi Electoral Commis sion have also asked the United States to stop, she said

"The U.S. military have been ex-tremely, I would

say, overenthusiastic in trying to help out with this election, told reporters. "And we have basically saying that they should try to minimize their par-ticipation, because this is an Iraqi

Informed by a reporter that U.S. soldiers have distributed voting material in recent weeks, Per-elli said: "I'm glad that you reported it, because I'm going to be screaming on the phone in two minutes

A significant voter turnout in Iraq's elections would help bolster the Bush administration's case that the political transition there enjoys widespread public On Wednesday, President Bush urged Iraqis to "defy these terror-

ists" seeking to intimidate voters and go to the polls.

He predicted that "millions of

Iraqi voters will show their bravery, their love of country and their desire to live in freedom" by casting votes.

Asked to respond to Perelli's comments, Gen. John Abizaid, the commander of U.S. forces in

Iraq, said: "We understand that this is an Iraqi elec-tion" and "American soldiers do not have the mission to get the vote out."

But a Pentagon spokesman, Lt. Col. Barry Ven-able, said: "It is understandmv ing that U.S. soldiers and other coalition forces patrolling in various places there have been handing out, if you will, some elections education material" produced by the Iraqi Electoral Commis-

process. 17 Carina Perelli U.N.'s top election official

sion. Kieran Prendergast, the U.N. undersecretary general for politi-cal affairs, said that the conditions for the elections "are far from ideal," but that "imperfect elections are the right instrument of policy for a democratic transition in Iraq."

Prendergast said that many Iraqis still feel "excluded and alienated" by the country's political transition, and that others question the impartiality of the Iraqi Electoral Commission. Still, he said that the new government will have fresh opportunities after the elections to "co-opt sectors of the population" that oppose the political transition

Eikenberry to lead Afghanistan command

The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan - A U.S. general who helped rebuild Afghanistan's army has been named as the next commander of American force es in the country, the U.S. military said Thursday.

Army Maj. Gen. Karl Eikenberry would take up his new post "probably within the next two to three months," said Mark McCann, a military spokesman in the Afghan capital, Kabul. His assignment needs confirmation in the U.S. Senate.

President Bush nominated Eikenberry for a third star and assignment as commander in Afghanistan, the U.S. Department of Defense said earlier this week

Eikenberry, currently director of strategic plan-ning for the U.S. Pacific Command in Hawaii, is to replace Lt. Gen. David Barno, who took charge of the Afghan operation in November 2003

dead.

Barno's term has seen the 18,000-strong U.S.-led coalition shift its focus from the so-far fruitless search for top fugitives, including al-Qaida chief Osama bin Laden and Taliban supreme leader Mullah Mohammed Omar, toward operations in support of the new Afghan govern-

Eikenberry served from Sept. 2002 to Sept. 2003 as the head of the U.S. military's office for military cooperation, which is charged with establishing the Afghan National Army

1-4 Cavalry soldier honored in Schweinfurt

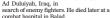
BY STEVE LIEWER Stars and Stripes

When a job needed doing, Sgt. Kyle Chil-

dress always stood up and led He headed the sniper team for the 1st Infantry Division's 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment. manned

the gun on his Bradley fighting vehicle and led the house assault teams more than 150 times during his 11 months in Iraq.

On Jan. 21, Childress' leadership cost him his life. A man opened fire from inside as he led his platoon into a house in Ad Duluiyah, Iraq, in



Friends from the 1-4 Cavalry's rear detachment gathered Thursday at an Army chapel in Schweinfurt, Germany, to remember a man they described as quiet and tough, a soldier's soldier

"Anyone in this unit and the men of his platoon would tell you when the going gets tough, it is a blessing to have Kyle around. said Staff Sgt. Bradley Shadden, a 1-4 Cavalry soldier who served with Childress in Iraq until he was wounded. "His bravery was unmatched.

Childress grew up in Terre Haute, Ind where he graduated from high school in 1994. Five years later he enlisted in the Army, where he trained as a scout. He served with the 3rd Infantry Division before moving joining 1-4 Cavalry's Troop A in mid-2002. He deployed to Iraq with the unit last February.

Shadden recalled Childress' arrival at 1-4 Cavalry, where he stood out because he said so little

"He was one tough nut to crack." Shadden said

He let few people get close. When he did speak, friends said, he made it count. He might offer a pungent joke or a blunt criticism, but he chose his words carefully and didn't sweat the small stuff.

In a tribute read at the service Childress platoon sergeant, Sgt. 1st Class Kenneth Garcia, told the fallen soldier what he vould remember most about him

"You kept us laughing with your no-non-sense approach to life, and you made it clear about how you felt when we had to accomplish something that did not make total sense," Garcia said

"You would say 'That's [expletive].' But you would still pack it up and get you and your men ready, no matter what. You always got the job done.'

Childress' superiors said he had a gift for soldiering. He could learn any battle skill quickly and well. He led more than 1,000 hours of urban combat operations



KRISTEN CHANDLER TOTH/Courtesy of U.S. A

Spc. Jeff Cullison serves as an honor guard, while soldiers line up to pay their last respects to Sgt. Kyle Childress, who was killled last week in Iraq.

a high level of expertise," said Capt. Cory Mack, his troop commander, in remarks read at the service. "On raids he normally served as the No. 1 man - the most dangerous position - in the four-man stack. He did this because he was the best at it."

Childress is survived by his parents,

"He was capable of doing lots of tasks to Keith and Nancy Childress, a brother, Jason, a sister, Gretta, and his German fiancée. Kerstin Beck.

He was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, the Army Commendation Medal and the Good Conduct Medal.

E-mail Steve Liewer at: liewers@mail.estripes.osd.mil

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GAO report points to Pentagon waste

BY CHRISTOPHER LEE The Washington Post

WASHINGTON - The U.S. government's biggest department is also one of the most prone to waste, fraud and abuse, raising concerns about the effectiveness of many of its programs, according to a new report by the Government Accountability Office.

The Department of Defense accounts for eight of the 25 federal programs, functions or offices that appear on the GAO's 2005 "high-risk" list. Two of its functions — inventory management and weapon systems acquision — have been on the list of problem programs since 1990.

"This is unacceptable and should not be tolerated," Comptroller General David Walker said Tuesday at a news conference. He was ioined, in sentiment and at the lectern, by several lawmakers, including Sens. Susan Collins, R-Maine, Joseph Lieberman, D-Conn., George Voinovich, R-Ohio, and Daniel Akaka D-Hawaii; and Reps. Tom Davis, R-Va. and Henry Waxman, D-Calif.

Walker noted that the Pentagon also has several other programs that landed on the list, a compilation of the biggest managerial trouble spots across the federal government issued by the GAO every other year. He said the depart ment's failure to turn around many of the problem areas "results in billions of dollars in waste each year and inadequate accountability to the Congress and the American taxpay-

Areas of concern at Defense include financial and contract management, the personnel security clearance program, management of military bases, and modernization of its computer systems, the report found Cheryl Irwin, a department spokeswoman,

said Tuesday that officials need time to study the report before commenting. "We are certainly reviewing it. "It's a little bit premature at this time for us to have a full response.

New to the high-risk list this year is a government-wide problem of ineffective sharing of information related to homeland security.

The report cited the "slow pace" of information sharing between fingerprint databases at the Department of Homeland Security and the Justice Department. It also said that inconsistent agency policies and overlapping sets of data would impede efforts to consolidate information from 12 terrorist and criminal watch systems maintained by nine federal agencies.

The report's findings "essentially say to us that we haven't achieved the homeland security the law requires us to achieve," said Lieberman, the ranking Democrat on the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Af-fairs Committee, "... The risk here is to the personal security of the American people at

The GAO did say that information sharing has improved since the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Congress created Homeland Security to serve, among other things, as a repository for information

Lawmakers said the report provides a guide for agencies to improve and, in some cases, an indication of where Congress should step in with legislation

Defense policy undersecretary Feith resigns

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON - A principal architect of the Defense Department's postwar strategy in Iraq announced Wednesday that he will leave his post this summer.

Douglas Feith, undersecretary of defense for policy, said he is leaving for personal reasons, citing the desire to spend more time with his four children. "For the last four years, they haven't seen me a lot," Feith said Wednesday.

Feith is a longtime Washington lawyer and part of a group of neoconservative foreign policy experts known for strong support of Israel and who had long-held aspirations of unseating Saddam Hus-

Supporters have praised Feith and the group, which includes former Reagan defense aide Richard N. Perle, for their willingness to take risks to confront autocracy in the Middle East and for their hard-line position against giving up Israeli-held land to the

Detractors have Feith for being unrealistic about the cost and outcome of invading Iraq and have asserted that he played a critical, be-hind-the-scenes role in exaggerat-



Army Gen Tommy R. once com-

from Sadd-

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Retired

mander of operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, called him "the stupidest guy on the face of the Earth" in his recent book. Feith and Franks tangled often, including over a proposal to train 5,000 Iraqi soldiers to be interpreters

and guides during the war. Feith said Wednesday that "controversy about important national security issues is to be expected. That's part of the job." He counted as his greatest achievement his work in devising the Pentagon's overall counterterrorism strategy, including that used in Iraq and Afghanistan.

don't have any definite plans. " he said of his post-Pentagon life. "I just have some no-tions."

IN THE WORLD

Europe gets slammed by big winter storm

BY WILLIAM J. KOLE The Associated Press

VIENNA, Austria - Winter's full fury arrived late but with a vengeance across much of Europe on Thursday, dumping snow that played havoc with Switzerland's famously efficient trains and gave Rome and the Mediterranean island of Mallorca a rare white blanket.

Heavy snow stranded Ukraine's new president, Viktor Yushchenko, in Poland and forced him to cancel a much-anticipated trip to Brussels, Belgium, for his first address to the European Parliament

A plane carrying mail from Romania to Hungary crashed in snowy weather near Iasi in northeastern Romania early Thursday, killing the two Hungarian pilots, authorities said. In the city of Sibiu, meanwhile, a pilot aborted a takeoff to Munich because of a snow-clogged runway.

Whipped by high winds, snow blanketed northern and eastern Romania, closing several highways and cutting power to about 14 villages in the county of Harghita.

More than five feet of snow isolated areas of north and east Albania, and the government said it would send in food and army machinery to open blocked roads.

In Austria, authorities closed key highways to truck traffic Thursday after more than 200 big rigs became stuck along with



A man clears the snow from his car windscreen in Budapest on Wednesday after heavy snow blanketed most of Europe.

hundreds of cars, some still fitted with sum-

In Vienna, about 12 inches of snow fell, the most on a Jan. 27 since 1969, the Central Institute for Meteorology and Geodynamics said.

With classes canceled at many schools.

students lugged snowboards up into the Vienna Woods, which were blanketed by snow for the first time since early Decemher.

In Germany, heavy snowfalls added a thick layer of fresh snow to the Upper Bavaria region Tuesday night.

In neighboring Slovakia, heavy snowfall continued Thursday, tying up traffic throughout the country, and in the Czech Republic.

Heavy snow storms isolated 13 villages in southwest Hungary and made numer-ous roads impassible, state-run news agency MTI reported Thursday.

Rome awoke to a light blanket of snow which settled on car roofs and in parks in the higher parts of the city. The rare snowfall in Italy's capital held up commuter trains coming into the city.

In central France, heavy snow shut down numerous schools as well as a stretch of highway. Nationwide, a cold snap broke the previous record for electricity consumption set in January 2003 as chilly homeowners turned up their thermostats. In Paris, shelters scrambled to make more space for the homeless.

In Switzerland, winds of 107 miles per hour were clocked on the peak of La Dole in the Jura mountains north of Geneva, creating blizzard-like conditions.

Heavy snow blocked roads and isolated hundreds of mountain towns in central and northern Spain. More than 1,000 people were trapped overnight on a major highway in the province of Bargos and were temporary housed in sports complexes, police said

U.N.: More drugs needed

- The number of people on HIV/AIDS drugs in the developing world almost doubled during 2004, but still falls far short of a U.N. target to have 3 million people on treatment by the end of this year, the World Health Organization said. "Although the level of commitment is

encouraging, it must accelerate in 2005," the U.N. health agency said Wednesday.
At least another 2.3 million people

need to start treatment if the target is to be reached, WHO said.

New law for unwed mothers

ZANZIBAR Tanzania -- Parliament has amended a 20-year-old law to re duce the punishment unmarried women face for becoming pregnant from two years to six months and for the first time propose sentences for the

resentatives voted 50-0 late Wednesday in favor of the amendments to the 1985 Spinsters, Widow and Female Divorcee Protection Act. Health and Social Welfare Minister

Salim Juma Othman told members before they voted on the law that, "the gov-ernment has decided to come up with the new law aimed at upholding women

Police nab escaped inmates

SAO PAULO Brazil - Police recan tured 116 of 202 escaped inmates Thursday, one day after they broke out of a juvenile detention center in Sao Paulo, au-

About 400 policemen combed the streets of Brazil's largest city looking for the remaining 86 inmates who fled late Wednesday from the Vila Maria detention center, said a spokesman for Sao Paulo's public safety secretariat.

The inmates escaped after taking guards hostages and forcing them to open a back door, police said. Some jumped over the detention center's wall. From The Associated Press

BY VANESSA GERA The Associated Press BRZEZINKA, Poland - As candles flick

ered in the snowy, winter gloom, world leaders and Auschwitz survivors Thursday remembered victims of the Holocaust on the 60th anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi death camp.

The ceremony, which opened with the re-

corded rumble of an approaching train, was held on the spot where new arrivals were brought in by rail to the vast camp and put through "selection" - meaning those few who were deemed able to work were separated from the rest, who were taken immediately to the gas chambers.

"It seems if you listen hard enough, you can still hear the outcry of horror of the murdered people," Moshe Katsav said. Israeli President

Joining in the commemoration were Vice President Dick Cheney, and presidents Aleksander Kwasniewski of Poland. Vladimir Putin of Russia, and Jacques Chirac of France. German President Horst Koehler sat on the platform without speaking in recognition of his country's responsi-bility for the Holocaust, in which 6 million Jews died during World War II.

Barbed wire and brick barracks

World leaders remember Auschwitz stretched as far as the eye could see. The ruined crematoriums loomed nearby, all covered with a layer of fresh snow. Girl Scouts brought blankets to elderly

survivors sitting in the freezing cold. "For a former inmate of Auschwitz, it is an unimaginable and overwhelming emotion to be able to speak in this cemetery without graves, the largest one in the history of Europe," said Wladyslaw Bartoszewski, a survivor who later became Poland's

foreign minister Soviet troops liberated Auschwitz and the neighboring camp at Birkenau, or Brzezinka in Polish, on Jan. 27, 1945. Some 1.5 million people, most of them Jews, had died at the two camps from gassing, starvation, exhaustion, beatings and disease.

Other victims included Soviet prisoners of war, Poles, Gypsies, homosexuals and political opponents of the Nazis.

"We think of the suffering of our brothers, of the special ties that link us, Poles, with the Jewish nation," Kwasniewski said. Putin compared the Nazis with the terrorists of today.

"Today we shall not only remember the past but also be aware of all the threats of the modern world," he said, "Terrorism is among them, and it is no less dangerous and cunning than fascism."



Mel Mermelstein, a death camp survivor. lights a candle at Auschwitz, where leaders from 30 countries gathered Thursday to remember victims of the Holocaust on the 60th anniversary of the camp's liberation.

Death toll in Thailand boat accident hits 14

The Associated Press

BANGKOK, Thailand - Rescue workers found the bodies of two Americans and several other people Thursday, bringing the death toll to 14 from the capsizing this week of a tourist hoat that overturned on its way back from a beach party in southern Thailand

Also found were the bodies of an Australian, a Briton, a Swiss citizen and a Thai, officials said.

The search continued for an Australian

man who was still missing in the Gulf of Thailand offshore the island of Koh Samui following Tuesday's accident, said police Lt. Col. Korjaru Sangamantorn, who was leading the rescue operation.

The speedboat passengers were returning to their hotels from a full-moon party on Pha-Ngan island when it capsized in the dark at 5:30 a.m. on Tuesday, about 3 miles

from Koh Samui's pier. Authorities still weren't sure how many were aboard the boat when it sank. But the 30-foot boat was thought to be carrying up to 50 people - more than the 30 it was designed to hold. The skipper, Samran Rungruen, fled the scene as rescue workers saved many of the passengers, nine of whom were injured.

Samran surrendered to police Wednesday, blaming a mechanical failure for the accident. But authorities said an investigation would be conducted.

The 14 dead whose bodies have been recovered include five Thais, four Britons, three Americans, a Swiss and an Australian, police said.

Tsunami may bring political change $\begin{vmatrix} { m Rich\ urged\ not} \\ { m to\ forsake\ poor} \end{vmatrix}$

BY SLOBODAN LEKIC

The Associated Press

JAKARTA, Indonesia - Wars, economic chaos, and natural disasters have often served as catalysts for fundamental political changes - and last month's tsunami may be another such harbinger of such a shift.

The tragedy that hit Aceh province is nushing forces for change in the separatist-torn region, where tens of thousands have died in decades of fighting between government troops and rebels, analysts

"Both the rebels and the government side realize the catastrophe could present a unique opportunity to end the war," said Damien Kingsbury, senior lecturer at Australia's Deakin University. "The military is now the only organization blocking a settlement

In the first indication that the dynamics of the Aceh conflict may have changed radically, the rebels and the government have agreed to meet behind closed doors in Helsinki, Finland, on Friday to hammer out a cease-fire. A high-level Indonesian delegation will be headed by top security minister Widodo Adi Sucipto, the government said.

A previous truce between the two sides collapsed in 2003, when hard-line generals opposed to the peace process arrested rebel negotiators, kicked out international observers, and launched a massive offen-

sive that has killed more than 2,500 people Following the tsunami, thousands of foreign soldiers, aid workers and journalists poured in after years in which the region was a zone of military operations off limits to foreigners. The Acehnese cause is likely

Indonesian refugees to be moved from camps

BANDA ACEH, Indonesia - Indonesia wants to move all 400,000 refugees out of squalid camps in Aceh province by the end of February, the head of the country's relief operations said Thursday, as workers rushed to build temporary homes in an area hardest hit by the tsunami.

The government estimates that 100,000 families in the province - one of the country's poorest regions, on the northern tip of Sumatra island - lost their homes in the Dec. 26 quake and tsunami.

to benefit from the scrutiny the disaster has brought to the conflict long known as "Indonesia's forgotten war."

The presence of the international community is also making it possible for Indonesia's allies in the United States and Australia to pressure the generals to accept a

"Now Jakarta has to put the genie back in the bottle, and that's not going to be easy," said Jeffrey Winters, an Indonesia specialist at Chicago's Northwestern Uni-"This is a major transformation that has happened due to the tsunami."

Despite a 10-1 numerical superiority, the 50,000 Indonesian troops and paramilitary police in Aceh have so far proved incapable winning the war, which has become a drain on Jakarta's finances.

Human rights groups have accused the Indonesian army of being responsible for executions, disappearances, torture and

About a third are expected to move into barracks, while the remainder will likely stay with relatives, officials say.

But Budi Atmaji, who is leading the government's relief effort, said he hopes all the refugees will opt for the government-funded housing, at least for the first year, because it would make food distribu tion and census-taking easier for officials.

"It's critical to put all the internally displaced people in barracks, where we can serve them better rather than them being in tents." Atmaii said.

collective punishment of civilians. They say most of the victims of the fighting have

been villagers caught up in army sweeps Mediators involved in the cease-fire talks in Finland say the administration of Indonesia's new president, Susilo Bam-bang Yudhoyono, would like a formal truce. Such a cease-fire would be followed by final-status negotiations in which the separatists would give up their 130-year dream of independence in exchange for wide-ranging autonomy.

Meanwhile, government ministers from tsunami-rayaged Asian nations plan to meet on the badly damaged resort island of Phuket, Thailand, on Friday and Saturday, assessing needs as they plan for a proposed tsunami early warning system in the

Also, Japanese troops landed in Banda Aceh on Friday. The troops aim to fill in the gap in left when U.S. forces scale back their relief operations

DAVOS, Switzerland - The world's richest man, one of its most visible social activists and the British leader put a sharp focus on the horrors facing Africa's poor on Thursday, saying the planet's in-difference to the suffering has been scan-

British Prime Minister Tony Blair, who has made Africa a focus of his leadership of the G-8 this year, said the continent's plight is "a scar on the conscience of the world," and questioned whether the global community would allow such poverty to persist anywhere else in the world.

'I almost think if what was happening in Africa today as we speak was happening in any other part of the world, there would be such a scandal and clamor that governments would be falling over themselves to do something about this," Blair said at the second day of the World Economic Forum in this Swiss ski resort.

Bill Gates, who has amassed an estimated fortune of \$48 billion as founder of Microsoft, said most of the disease and despair on the continent would be easily preventable if resources were applied

"The fact that we don't apply the resources to the known cures or to finding better cures is really ... the most scandalous issue of our time," he said. Gates recently pledged \$750 million to

support immunization programs in developing countries. The annual meeting in Davos brings together 2,500 of the world's leading business,

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IN THE STATES

Calif. gay pair's case key

SANTA ANA, Calif. — They filed their lawsuit almost as an af-terthought. But a legal challenge by a gay couple from suburban Orange County against laws banning same-sex marriage has sud denly become key in the thin field

of litigation on the issue. Christopher Hammer and Arthur Smelt plan to be in U.S. District Court on Thursday as their attorney argues that the fed-eral law, as well as California's Proposition 22, are violations of civil rights.

California recognizes only marriages between a man and a woman, and the Defense of Marriage Act allows states to disregard gay marriages performed in other states and foreign coun-

"Certainly, eyes are going to be focused on this particular case, said Matthew Staver, president of Liberty Counsel, an opponent of gay marriage involved in some 30

cases nationwide.

Hammer and Smelt, both 45. met in 1996 and held a commitment ceremony a year later. They tried to get a marriage license in Orange County at the time but were turned down

Ohio worker kills boss

TOLEDO, Ohio - An auto worker wired a shotgun to his body and burst into a Jeep assem-bly plant, killing a supervisor and wounding two other employees before killing himself.

The alleged gunman, Myles Meyers, had met with plant offi cials to talk about a problem with his work the day before his fatal spree Wednesday at a Jeep Liber ty Plant, authorities said.

After entering the plant at about 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Meyers had pointed the gun at a woman in the plant's body shop office and ordered her to sur three other people, police Chief Mike Navarre said.

She summoned one of the three men, Michael Toney, who was shot and wounded. Supervisor Roy Thacker, who was on the list of three, was killed after he went to the office on his own, while a third man who was not on the list. Paul Medlen, was wounded later. authorities said.

Meanwhile, the woman then ran out of the office and warned co-workers over the radio, police

Stored chemicals ablaze

GRANDVIEW, Wash. - Officials evacuated 100 homes and closed a 13-mile stretch of high-way after a building used to store farm chemicals caught fire, fill ing the air with contaminated

A half dozen people complained of skin irritation or respiratory distress and sought treatment at a nearby hospital, said Lt. Jim Keightley, State Patrol spokesman. Authorities evacuat-ed a half-mile area around the Wilbur-Ellis Co. plant, he said.

cording to Ken Cowdrey, bur-Ellis' head of safety in Yaki-ma. However, he said they did not include explosive chlorine, ammonium nitrate or anhydrous ammonia.

The cause of the fire was not immediately known

From The Associated Press

Oil co. to cut refinery emissions

Suit settlement also requires ConocoPhillips to pay \$4.5M fine

BY MARK SHERMAN The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - ConocoPhil-

lips will install \$525 million in pollution controls at nine refineries and pay a \$4.5 million fine to settle a federal lawsuit alleging Clean Air Act violations, the Bush administration announced Thurs-

The settlement requires ConocoPhillips, the nation's third biggest oil company, to reduce year-ly emissions of nitrogen oxide by more than 10,000 tons and sulfur dioxide by more than 37,100 tons. Both can cause respiratory ailments and worsen cases of childhood asthma.

The refineries covered in the agreement among the company, the Justice Department, Environmental Protection Agency and

five states, represent 10 percent of the nation's refining capacity. The refineries are in Califor

nia, Illinois, Louisiana, New Jer-sey, Pennsylvania, Texas and Washington. California and Washington are not part of the settle-ment, Justice Department officials said.

The settlement is the 13th reached under an EPA initiative begun in 2000. EPA officials have said the earlier agreements have cut air pollution by 200,000 tons a vear at 48 refineries.

The money for pollution control will be spent over eight years

and is just shy of the largest settlement reached over the past four years, a \$550 million agreement with Motiva Enterprises.

In addition to the pollution controls and civil penalty, Conoco-Phillips will spend another \$10 million to further reduce emissions at its refineries in the five states that are part of the settlement. The agreement was filed in U.S. District Court in Texas and still requires the approval of a fed-eral judge.

As snow falls in Boston, record follows suit



When the Boston area saw 5 more inches of snow Thursday morning — two days after John McDonald's attempts to clear ice from a friend's car, in Hull, Mass., with a rubber hammer, above - this month became Boston's snowiest on record. Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney asked President Bush to declare a federal emergency in the eastern half of the state Thursday, only days after Bostonians saw a blizzard dump more than 3 feet of snow. Logan Airport's January total is 43.1 inches of snow, more than in any month since the National Weather Service began keeping records for the city in 1892.

Medical-records upgrades sought

The Associated Press

CLEVELAND - President Bush said Thursday that the medical industry is behind the times, using paper and pen for many records and prescriptions when computerized records could reduce cost and errors.

"Most industries in America have used information technology to make their businesses more cost effective, more efficient and more productive. And the truth of the matter is, health care hasn't." Bush said during a forum at the Cleveland Clinic.

The White House announced that it will propose that the federal government spend \$125 million in next year's budget to test computerization of health records. The government is spending \$50 million on this in the current budget year, and Bush is also asking Congress to double that amount for 2005.

The Cleveland Clinic has been helping the government develop standards for computer-

ization and Bush heard from doctors who joined him on stage to praise the technology The hospital uses the Internet to give patients second oninions online for cancer. heart disease and other conditions and also provides health information aimed at eliminating the time and expense of hospital vis-

But for every hospital making advancements like the Cleveland Clinic, there are many that still use the old-fashioned paper methods.

Bush campaigned on the issue last year He said his goal is for a majority of Ameri-cans to have computerized records in 10

Bush said he is sensitive to privacy concerns. "I presume I'm like most Americans. I think my medical records to be private. I don't want people looking at them, I don't want people, you know, opening them up un-less I say it's fine for you to do so." he said.

Calif. man charged in rail deaths

BY PAUL CHAVEZ The Associated Press

GLENDALE. Calif. - The suicidal man who authorities say caused the chain-reaction train derailment that killed 11 people has been charged with multiple counts of murder and could face the death penalty, the district attorney said Thursday.

Juan Manuel Alvarez, 25, left his sport utility vehicle on a railroad track Wednesday after changing his mind about committing suicide, authorities said. He was held without bail at a hospital's jail ward after apparently slitting his own wrists and stabbing himself in the chest

In addition to the 11 dead, a woman remained missing and nearly 200 people were injured.

Los Angeles County District Attorney Steve Cooley said prosecutors filed charges late Wednes-day for 10 counts of murder with "special circumstances" of committing murder through a train derailment. Under state law, the allegation makes Al-varez eligible for the death penalty. Cooley said the complaint would be amended to add another count to refer to the 11th victim, found in the

wreckage late Wednesday night.

Prosecutors were evaluating Alvarez's mental state in regard to the special circumstance allegations, but Cooley said it was no defense to the

"His despondency doesn't move me," the dis-trict attorney said. "The mere fact that he was a lit-tle upset or despondent doesn't mean he has a defense for anything."

Alvarez's state of mind, while not providing a motive, could show his intent to commit a crime, Cooley said.

Arraignment was planned for Thursday afternoon but could be delayed depending on Alvarez's medical condition.

Alvarez got out of his green Jeep Cherokee before two commuter trains crashed in this Los Angeles suburb. He stood by as the gruesome chain-reaction wreck scattered wreckage and bodies over a quarter-mile of track. The crash was the worst

U.S. rail tragedy since 1999. Alvarez's estranged wife, Carmelita Alvarez, had ordered him out of her Compton home months ago, her family said. In December, she obtained a temporary restraining order keeping him away from her, their 3-year-old son and other family

members. The wounded Alvarez was under suicide watch but was listed in stable condition, and Sheriff Lee Baca said Thursday on CBS' "The Early Show" that Alvarez "was rather astounded himself as to what the outcome was.'

Associated Press writers Robert Jablon and Laura Wides contributed to this report.

Terror tip hoax poses notification questions

BY DENISE LAVOIE The Associated Press

BOSTON - The warning from an anonymous tipster to California authorities quickly crackled across the nation to Boston: A oup of people were on route to Massachusetts and planning a ter-

Patrols were increased at Logan International Airport and the city's transit system. Vehicles

searched in underground narking garage Governor Romney skinned Presi dent Bush's inauguration to re-

turn to Boston. All this for what authorities now say was an act of revenge an immigrant smuggler allegedly trying to get back at people who failed to pay

The apparent hoax has renewed scrutiny on the choices that authorities must make tween deciding when to warn the public and when to investigate quietly without broadcasting the threat. day "Every

there comes to the various agencies within the U.S. government hundreds thousands — of reports of everything from Martians having landed in Nevada to someone who just had a conversation with Elvis to terrorists coming with a nuclear bomb to Boston," said Graham T. Allison, an assistant defense sec retary in the first Clinton administration. "It's one of those situations where you're kind of damned if you do and damned if you don't

The tip that set Boston on edge

Highway Patrol on Jan. 17. The caller claimed that four Chinese nationals and two Iraqi nationals entered the United States from Mexico and were awaiting a shipment of nuclear material that would follow them to Boston. The implication was that the group was plotting to detonate a radioactive "dirty bomb."

The list of possible terror su pects later grew to 16, although

authorities con-

hedge, saying

the tip was un-

and unsubstan-

Attor-U.S.

Michael

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vent panic. But

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cern for public

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believe the pub-

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Matthew

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tiated.

Truckers vs. terror

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. Hoping to take advantage of alert eyes along the nation's highways, the government is trying to enlist more truckers

in the battle against terrorism Sullivan said the vast majori-The Alexandria, Va.-based Highway Watch, started by the American Trucking Associamous tins received by autions in 1998 and funded since 2002 with homeland security money, focuses on safety and not made public in an atsecurity. tempt to pre-

Spokesman John Willard said the volunteer program has received a total of about \$40 million and "all 50 states have active programs." He said Highway Watch continues to seek trained members.

Besides looking out for potential threats, such as a tanker truck parked for an extended period near a bridge or overpass, volunteers are trained to "avoid becoming a target of ter-

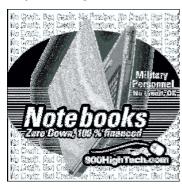
From The Associated Press

Evangelista, a professor of international relations at Cornell University, said warning the public about a threat before it is thoroughly investigated can cause neonle to be desensitized

tion.

Sullivan noted that authorities ere careful to emphasize from the beginning that they had been unable to corroborate the claims of the tipster

"I think it breeds a kind of cynicism on the part of the public. .. People become maybe less willing to believe the threats when they are actually real," Evangelis-





Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, left, shakes hands with State Department employees on Thursday in Washington. Rice took over Thursday as America's 66th secretary of state, and addressed her employees in the Johny of the State

Rice gets warm welcome

New secretary of state starts work after confirmation

BY BARRY SCHWEID The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Declaring "history is calling us," Condoleezza Rice took over Thursday as Ameri ca's 66th secretary of state to confront an agenda laden with difficult and potentially explosive foreign policy problems.

At the top is a grinding war in Iraq that has taken the lives of more than 1,400 U.S. troops.

But Rice exuded confidence as she entered the State Department, telling employees that "it's great to be here," and declaring that "democracy will take hold" around the world as it did in Germany and Japan after World War II.

At the end of next week, Rice is expected to undertake her first overseas venture as secretary of state, going to Europe, the Middle East and possibly other

Among her goals are mending relations with U.S. allies in Europe and assessing prospects for Arab-Israeli negotiations

Known during her four years as President Bush's national security assistant as remote and reserved, Rice pleased hundreds of employees crammed into a State Department lobby with the declaration that her door will be open to them.

Echoing Bush's inaugural speech, Rice promised, 'America will stand for freedom and for liberty."

She started her first day on the job with telephone

calls to Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf, Rus sian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, Italian Foreign Minister Gianfranco Fini and other foreign officials. She planned to attend an Iraq meeting at the White House and another one at the State Department on the

tsunami disaster in Asia. Rice is about a week behind schedule, delayed by critical Democratic senators who delayed confirmation. The Senate voted 85-13 to confirm her Wednes-

Šenarately:

Republicans on the Senate Judiciary Committee advanced Alberto Gonzales' attorney general nomination on a partyline, 10-8 vote, sending it to the full Senate, where Republicans were expected to use their 55-44 advantage to confirm him there next week at the earliest.

■ Jim Nicholson and Michael Leavitt won confirmation as the new secretaries of veterans affairs and health and human services, respectively.

Homeland security system revamped

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON - Bush administration officials Wednesday unveiled a new personnel system for the Department of Homeland Security that will dramatically change the way workers are paid promoted, deployed and disciplined - and soon the White House will ask Congress to grant all federal agencies similar authority to rewrite civil service rules governing their employees.

The new system will replace the half-century-old General Schedule, with its familiar 15 pay grades and raises tied to time in a job, and install one that more di-

rectly ties pay to occupation and annual performance evaluations. officials said. The new system has taken two years to develop and will require at least four more to implement, they said.

Under the new plan, employees would be grouped into eight to 12 clusters based on occupation. Sala-ry ranges will be based, in part, on geographic location and annual market surveys by a new compensation committee. Within each occupational cluster, workers will be assigned to one of four salary ranges, or "pay bands," based on their skill level and experience.

Getting a raise or promotion will depend on receiving a satisfactory performance rating from one's supervisor.

The White House will propose legislation within a month to allow all agencies to revamp their personnel systems in a similar way, said Clay Johnson II, deputy director for management at the Office of Management and Budget

Federal employee union leaders, however, immediately denounced the new DHS system and any plans to expand it government wide. They said the system would undermine the morale of homeland security employees and make it harder to attract and keen talented workers.

Inmate suspected in III. deaths

PEORIA, Ill. - Authorities have identified an inmate as the key suspect in the deaths of several women whose bodies began turning up along rural roads four years ago

Larry Bright, 38, is expected to be charged Thursday in one of the murders, with charges to be filed later tying him to as many as seven other deaths, State's Attorney Kevin Lyons said. Six women have been found dead since 2001 in neighboring Peoria and Tazewell counties, and four others are missing.

Mass, shipvard accident kills two

BRAINTREE, Mass. - A piece of the giant metal frame that once held shipbuilding cranes collapsed onto a building at a former shipvard, killing two workers and injuring others who were inside remov-

One man was killed when the Fore River Shipyard building collapsed on top of the vehicle he was sitting in. The second body was pulled from the wreckage after nightfall by rescue dogs.

From The Associated Press

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Politics drives retired brass?

I seemed to have read the letter "Gonzales not right fit for GIs" (Jan. 25) in other newspapers and online in the past couple of weeks, which makes me wonder why retired Marine Brig. Gen. David Brahms and several other [retired] generals and admirals wrote to Stars and Stripes. They appear to have some valid concerns. However, more questions come up in my mind as to why the writers believe the way they

In my time in the Marine Corps I served in artillery, infantry and tank battalions, and as an aide to a two-star general. Often the aide is the confidant to the general. and you hear some interesting ideas dealing with war, politics and personal goals. My assessment is that, when the eagles come off and the stars go on, the politician arises in the general. So here are some of the questions I have for the writers:

Are enemy combatants without uniforms, murdering indigenous people and soldiers, not representing an anarchist country, and thus not covered by the Geneva Conventions?

■ Have you all served in combat situations and/or units where that moral character has to decide what to do for the accomplishment of the mission, and the welfare of the troops? Some of you have, some of you haven't, based on résumés I have seen

■ By having a group of you sign this letter, would you say you are speaking for the

majority or a select few retired generals? Could it be that you are motivated to write this letter by your political affilia-tions? What political parties have you

voted for in the past? ■ I'm only a fifth-grade Department of Defense Dependents Schools teacher, who is a retired Marine officer, so please help me on this one: In your summary/conclusion it appears you are addressing senators. If so why write to Stars and Stripes? Why not instead write an encouraging let-

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ter to the men and women in Afghanistan and Iraq to have the moral courage to do what is right despite what oftentimes can be what some may feel are gray situations? I'm sure they would appreciate retired generals thinking of them, and encouraging them to do the right thing - whether doing patrols in Fallujah or guarding prisoners in detention centers.

James Clark Butzbach, Germany

New Navy uniform a mistake

The Navy is suffering from dysfunctional leadership, as evidenced by the recent Task Force Uniform initiative designed to change the E-6 and below Navy uniform to a Marine Corps look-alike. The master chief petty officer of the Navy is doing this to appease the junior enlisted members in the hopes that it will improve morale.

The Task Force Uniform concept is a mistake from the start - by using surveys and polls to choose a uniform. What is popular now may well be unpopular in the

near future. Then what? Initiate another Task Force Uniform and start more surveys and polls only to change the uniform

again? The Navy should stick with the uniform it has. Pride in wearing the uniform doesn't come by changing a uniform. Pride comes from within. As a junior enlisted I didn't complain about my Navy uniform — I made sure I was "squared away" by wearing embroidery when it wasn't

mandatory, maintaining my physical fitness, body fat and weight and using plenty of starch for military-style creases. I never had a desire to wear the Marine uniform. If I did, I would have joined the Marine Corns

Chief Petty Officer Bernard M. Burawski Altamonte Springs, Fla.

Hunting is proud tradition

The writer of the letter "Hunting is not best approach" (Jan. 7) claimed hunting was unethical and unnecessary because food is readily available in the grocery store. If we follow that logic, why do any thing at all if it's already available from someone else? I could grow tomatoes in my own back yard, or I could throw away the education and fulfillment that comes with accomplishing something myself.

The writer also seem to indicate that slaughtering animals in mass to provide meat for the general population is ethical, but scouting, hunting, cleaning and preparing the harvest yourself is not. Obviously, he has not experienced it, but there is satis faction, discipline, hard work and tradition involved in hunting an animal for consumption.

Finally, if a soldier/hunter worked for the writer, would the writer hold it against that person because of his severe aversion of hunting? As a leader, perhaps this writer should keep his personal opinion about a legal activity that many soldiers enjoy out of the public forum. Maj. Matt R. Morris

Camp Al Taji, Iraq

Drug-label law needs a supplement

The Washington Post

decade ago, Congress passed a law shielding makers of dietary supplements from regulatory scrutiny. The consequences of the Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act of 1994 were entirely foreseeable: large ly uncontrolled sales and marketing of vitamins and herbal remedies without advance approval of their safety and effectiveness.

According to a new report by the Institute of Medicine, the foreseeable has come to pass. The report deals broadly with alternative and complementary medicine ... but the section on dietary supplements deserves particular attention. An estimated 15 million adults in Ameri-

ca take herbal remedies or high doses of vi-

tamins, which are often sold with vague claims about how they affect the body. These statements can easily be taken for claims of medical benefit, even cures for specific diseases

Yet few herbal supplements are proven to work, and some may be dangerous, partic-ularly when combined with prescription drugs with which their interactions are largely unknown. Because of the 1994 law, however, the Food and Drug Administra tion has no power to approve their use before they go on the market, and the burden is on the agency to show that a supplement is dangerous before it can be removed from stores Unlike drug companies, moreover, sup-

plement manufacturers have no obligation to monitor or report health problems their products may cause...

One study showed that 32 percent of certain Chinese herbal medicines contained "undeclared pharmaceuticals or heavy metals," while smaller percentages contained "lead, mercury or arsenic." Another study showed that of 59 samples of echinacea pur-chased in Denver, 10 percent contained "no measurable echinacea" at all. When you buy a dietary supplement, in other words. you have no idea what you're getting.

The report recommends amending the 1994 law to ensure "accuracy and compre-hensiveness in labeling," reasonable enforcement authority, and stronger consumer protections. Our view is that reform should go further, holding herbal medicines to the same standards of safety and efficacy as drugs made by pharmaceutical compa-

Doonesbury Flashbacks

GENERAL, HOW WOULD YOU CHARACTERIZE IRAQI SENTIMENT TOWARD THE OCCU-PATION NOW







BY GARRY TRUDEAU

STARS AND STRIPES WEB SITE: WWW.STRIPES.COM

OPINION

How far are we willing to push prisoners?

The Dallas Morning News

"I have neither the time nor the inclination to explain myself to a man who rises and sleeps under the blanket of the very freedom I provide, then questions the man-

ner in which I provide it!"

— Col. Nathan Jessep, "A Few Good Men"
he famous courtroom outburst

from Jack Nicholson in the film
"A Few Good Men" is a classic
defense of "ends-justify-the-means" morality. The fictional
Jessep, on military trial for complicity in
a soldier's beating death, argues that the
society that counts on the security he pro-

vides had better take care in judging him. We were thinking about Co.l. Jessep in the wake of the conviction of Spc. Charles Graner, recently found guity of abusing prisoners at Abu Ghraib prison and sentenced to 10 years behind hars. The verdict was just, the punishment condign, and, thus, many of us may think this puts the question of U.S. abuse and torture of detainers for the control of the prison and the control of th

Wrong. We have no right to scapegoat Spc. Graner. There are far too many questions left unanswered about U.S. policy on physical abuse of these prisoners. There are reams of documents — official investigations, a Red Cross report, internal government papers made public thanks to an

American Civil Liberties Union lawsuit showing that cruel and inhumane treatment of prisoners was more widespread than initially believed.

We know now that some detainees were beaten, some were raped, some burned, choked, urinated on, forced to face mock execution, shocked with electricity, sodomized with a police stick, sexually humiliated ... the list goes on.

We know, too, that the White House adopted what might charitably be called an expansive view of the limits of physical coercion. President Bush has said that he does not condone torture, but much depends on the definition of the word. When does necessary roughness become torture— — and do our interrogators know and repect the distinction? More important: the design of the property of the president of the lattice of the president people that they do?

If not, then Col. Jessep is right, and there is no moral limit to what might be done to human beings in the name of security. So much for the sanctity of moral val-

In the film, Nathan Jessep goes down, because our sense of justice does not grant the right to do lawless evil so that good might come of it. If that's what Americans really believe, and not just Hollywood make-believe, we are shamefully reticent to show our troubled consciences.



Comment compromised if conflicts not of interest

BY EDWARD WASSERMAN

he affair of Armstrong Williams, the columnist and TV commentator who secretly took \$240,000 to shill for Bush administration education policy, came and went with blinding speed.

Not only was the furor brutish and short, but it focused on the case's most unsual elements — that it involved a black conservative, an explicit payoff, public money and straight-up propaganda. As The New York Times

framed the issue:
"The disclosure of the
payments intensified
a debate over the prevalence of political
opinion masked as editorial content in the
paid public communications of the Bush administration."

That's one way of looking at it. The far bigger issue, and one reason why the matton get so little attention

ter got so little attention, is that Williams' sin exemplifies a corruption that is all but routine in the arena of opinion and commentary: Somebody's bankrolling all these supposedly independent voices, and we rarely know who.

Of the numerous articles I read on the case only a column by Chris Baker, in The Washington Times, hinted at the problem: "One of the dirty secrets of television news is that the producers who book pundits such as Armstrong Williams on their programs rarely ask the commentators about potential conflicts of interest."

I suspect it's a lot worse than that, and it isn't just TV.

At times, the commentary arena is little better than an ethical brothel.

Reporters face mounting demands to come clean on entanglements, but TV's shouting heads and the outside columnists who fill newspaper op-ed pages face no such clamor. Freelance a travel article to a reputable newspaper, as a veteran political consultant told me, and you must swear you didn't get as much as a free Coke from the hotels you mention. But write a fierce opinion piece about some public policy—with vast consequences at stake—and no-body asks whether you have a client involved.

As readers, we don't notice. We read the op-ed column or watch the guest commentator, and we're reassured to learn the pundit is an expert in arms control or

What the Williams

affair dramatizes is

a rearettable

institutional laxness

from which the

marketplace of

opinion now suffers.

health-care policy, or is an ex-deputy assistant undersecretary, or a scholar-in-residence at some institute, or co-author of some largely unsold book. And it's true, but it tells us nothing. We still have not a clue as to whom this person works for —

and whether those

learned observations

were delivered pursuant to an arrangement with an undisclosed paymaster. protective cover. The writer who's a "fellow" of that high-sounding think tank may be financially beholden to a benefactor hidden behind the institutional curtain

After the Williams affair broke, Judith Phair, head of the Public Relations Society of America, wrote on the organization's Web site that its Code of Ethics requires professionals to "fully disclose sponsors or financial interests involved in any naid communications activities."

It's a commendable statement. But political consulting deals — whether labeled corporate PR, lobbying or grass-roots — do routinely obligate consultants to make sure that sympathetic commentaries are placed on respectable media outlets. (It's not unheard-of for the writing to be arranged anonymously well before the prestigious author's byline is rented.) This is never disclosed.

Some say that the rules are different for pundits. Williams — who has insisted he said nothing he didn't believe — claimed initially that because he was a commentator, not a journalist, he could keep the payments secret. In an inter-

view, President Bush, whose appointees were Williams' bagmen, observed, "There needs to be a clear distinction between journalism and advocacy" — a puzzling remark. Did he mean money paid under-the-table to commentators precisely because the public thinks they're independent isn't deceiful? Of course it is.

There is such a thing as principled adocacy. And there is honest commentary based on disinterested judgments and driven by conviction, not cash. What the Williams affair dramatizes is a regrettable institutional laxness from which the marketplace of opinion now suffers.

It's not hard to insist that pundits disclose conflicts and commitments, to insist that bylined authors actually do their own writing and that basic standards of honest discourse apply.

And the beleaguered mainstream

media would do well to set such standards now. Because with the jubilant proliferation of punditry on the Internet, it's hard to see where else such standards would be set.

Edward Wasserman is Knight professor of journalism ethics at Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Va. He wrote this column for The Miami Herald.

Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY



Rap label founder hit with federal charges

By MICHAEL WEISSENSTEIN
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — In an industry built on tough talk, the hip-hop label Murder Inc. made hundreds of millions of dollars as it blurred the line between the studio and the street.

the street. Founder Irv "Gotti" Lorenzo named his company after a crime syndicate. He borrowed his nickname from a Mafia don. And the impresario behind platinum-selling superstars Ja Rule and Ashanimade no secret of his friendship with one of New York's most notorious drug lords.

Prosecutors charged Wednesday that the criminal image was all too real. In a turn of events unprecedented even in the criminal-minded rap world, Gotti was led from the FBI's Manhattan office in handcuffs as he was charged with laundering more than \$I million with Kenneth McGriff's multistate crack and heroin operation.

"They don't call it gangster rap for nothing," said Frederick Snellings, special agent-in-charge of the FBI's New York criminal divi-

McGriff, already in prison on a gun violation, was charged with drug dealing, racketeering and three murders.

Federal prosecutors said Gottl, is brother and business partner, Chris Lorenzo, and their associates accepted frequent deliveries of McGriff's drug cash at their Manhattan offices. In exchange, Gotti cut McGriff more than 2520,000 in business and personal checks and paid for tens of thousands of dollars worth of his travel and hotel costs, prosecutors charge.

Recording in a studio dubbed
"The Crackhouse," Murder Inc.
— now called The Inc. — has sold
about 20 million records behind

Ja Rule and Ashanti, who were not charged in the indictment. Ja Rule's current album, "R.U.L.E.," peaked at No. 7 on the Billboard chart. Ashanti currently appears

in the movie "Coach Carter." The company, owned partly by Def Jam, a subsidiary of Universal Music, has made about \$200 million since it was founded in 1997, according to a source familiar with its operations who insisted upon anonymity.

Ja Rule's manager and at least seven other Gotti and McGriff associates also have been charged in the case.

Gotti and his brother were released on SI million bonds Wednesday afternoon after pleading not guilty in federal court in Brooklyn. The indictment seeks to seize Gotti's personal property and two of his music companies but does not target Murder Inc. itself.

Associated Press writer Tom Hays contributed to this report.



In "Gotti" Lorenzo, head of Murder Inc., left, is escorted by police from the FBI office in New York on Wednesday. Lorenzo and his brother Christopher surrendered to the FBI on money-laundering charges. Murder Inc. was renamed The Inc. last year in an attempt to deflect negative publicity from the federal investigation.

AP photos

Above: Michael Howden appears before his sex change. Michael married a woman before undergoing a sex change which transformed them into a same-sex couple, despite a ban on such unions in 40 states, including New Hampshire.

Right: Judi, left, and Mikayla Howden pose at their home in Concord, N.H. The two married nearly four years ago.



Sex change blurs marital status

BY ERIK STETSON The Associated Press

CONCORD, New Hampshire

— Judi Howden went into her
marriage knowing full well that
one day her husband might become her wife.

The couple stayed together—even as Howden's husband, Michael, underwent a sex-change operation that transformed him into Mikayla. That surgery also landed them in a murky area where gender and law collide.

Their marriage — once between a man and a woman — is now between a woman and a woman, despite a ban on such unions in 40 states, including New Hampshire.

Their experience highlights a legal Catch-22. While states can either recognize or refuse to recognize someone's new gender following a sex change, either decision inescapably permits some form of same-sex marriage.

"I have no answer to it," said state congressman Dan Itse, a Republican who supports the state's same-sex marriage ban. "We have ventured where angels fear to tread."

The federal government must decide if Mikayla Howden, a U.S. citizen born overseas, can update her birth certificate. It hasn't yet ruled, and Shannon Minter, of the National Center for Lesbian Rights in California, said the Bush administration has not been as accommodating as earlier administration.

According to the center, four states don't permit gender updates: Tennessee, Ohio, Kansas and Texas. About half of the remaining states do. A firm policy hasn't been legally well established in the remaining states, including New Hampshire, said Minter, the center's legal director.

"Whether or not society will acknowledge our marriage, I think, is my biggest fear," Judi Howden said. "That someday, someone may pass legislation that says, 'Because you are now two females, you are no longer married.' For anyone to say that they have the right to break up a family, I don't think is right."

The Howdens' marriage clearly was legal when it began, and same-sex marriage bans cannot automatically invalidate it, Minter said, just as states don't automatically annul marriages for adultery or abuse.

Bush, Kerry campaigns give after-action reports

The Associated Press

COLLEGE STATION, Texas — President Bush's responses to the terrorist attacks colored everything Democratic challenger John Kerry proposed in his unsuccessful bid for the White House last year, the manager of the Kerry campaign said.

"This was an election that was completely overshadowed by 9/11, and every issue that rose was seen by the voters and the candidates through that prism," Mary Beth Cahill said Wednesday at a forum at the Bush Presidential Library at Texas A&M University.

"At the moment when our nation was under attack, President Bush rose completely to the occasion and established a relationship that was backdrop for the entire presidential campaign in 2004. I think for John Kerry and for the Democratic Party, this was a very costly and a very strone competition."

The Election 2004 forum was moderated by former President George Bush, the current president's father. Cahill's counterpart in the

Bush-Cheney campaign, Ken Me-

hlman, said the election illustrated the power of the new media fueled by the Internet, cable television and talk radio.

That new media has broken the

monopoly of the three major television networks that once provided the bulk of information and has led to more niche marketing, Mehlman said.

"This was the first campaign where the new media was more important than the old media," he said. He predicted the effect would be felt in future election campaigns.

The discussion was very low key, with Bush primarily steering the conversation related to about a dozen questions from an audience of some 600. Many in the audience are students at his school of government at Texas A&M University

One student worried that only wealthy people could run for office. Mehlman pointed to Bill Clinton and Ronald Reagan as examples where wealth wasn't a factor.

"If you've got political talent, there's a market for that talent," he said. "Ultimately it's the quality of the candidates. ... [But] you have to ask for money. And have a lot of rich friends."

Residents of Georgia town sprucing up image

PITTS, Ga. — Years of neglect left the once-thriving business district of this rural community looking like, well, the pits.

Now residents want to turn Pitts into a pit stop featuring antiques.

Now residents want to turn PITIS into a pit stop reaturing antiques, fine arts, pottery and Southern barbecue for travelers from Interstate 75, which runs 15 miles to the west through Cordele. They also want to make it a stop for an excursion train that occasionally runs from Cordele to Savannah.

"We actually have people who stop ... and take their pictures with the city limits sign," said Sandy Guest, mayor of the town of 300. "I guess it's so they can tell their friends they have been through the nits."

But now, the downtown is showing signs of life once again. On one corner, 73-year-old Emery Mathews is at work with his skill saw and chalk line, converting a service station into a flower shop.

Jackie Guest, the mayor's father-in-law, has purchased the mercantile building and plans to turn it into a general store.

From The Associated Press

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PAGE 16 · Stars and Strip

Cop faces discipline

CO DENVER — Police Sgt. Michael Karasek will be disciplined for threatening to arrest a woman for displaying on her truck a profane bumper sticker about President Bush, Police Chief Gerry Whitman said.

Shasta Bates, 26, was confronted by a man while standing in a UPS store. The man

told her he was upset by her humner sticker. The man then went outside and flagged down Karasek, who was working off-duty in uniform at the

shopping center Bates, three UPS employees and a Rocky Mountain News reporter who happened to be there all say that the officer threatened to ar

rest the woman if she didn't remove the bumper sticker from her truck Karasek told investigators that he did threaten the woman with arrest, but at the time he thought he was following the law, a police source said. He realized shortly

after the confrontation that he was wrong, the source said **Rethinking Washington**

MD BALTIMORE — Research ers hoping to dispel George Washington's image as a stiff-jawed, boring old man are tak-ing a bite out of history through a high-tech study of his famous false

The researchers were in Baltimore to perform laser scans on a set of Washington's dentures at the National Museum of Dentistry dentures, they say, that were not made of wood as commonly believed.

Scientists and historians plan to use the information to help create new, expressive, life-sized figures of plaster and wax to show aspects of the 6-foot-3 Washington's personality they consider underappreciated

"People know that Washington was great, but many people think he was boring and nothing could be further from the truth" said be further from the truth, James C. Rees, executive director of the Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens, Washington's home in Northern Virginia.

Great water levels

MI TRAVERSE CITY — The water levels in the Great Lakes system have risen as much as 16 inches this winter from one year ago, bringing hope for next summer to the region's boaters and beach visitors.

According to the latest U.S. Army Corps of Engineers figures Lake St. Clair's water level was 16 inches above the winter 2004 level and 4 inches above its long-term average. The other lakes reported 7- to 15-inch increases.

High water translates to cash for the shipping industry, where higher water means more cargo and bigger profits. A single inch of water allows a 1,000-foot freighter to carry 270 additional tons of goods, according to the Cleve-land-based Lake Carriers' Associa-

Light rail funded

AZ PHOENIX — Saying the nation's sixth-largest city was "strangling on its congestion," the country's top transit official signed

on to the National Marine Fisheries Service for one last round of consideration

Fatal accident

VI Lowell BARTON - A was killed over the weekend after a snowmobile accident on Crystal Lake.

Vermont State Police later cited the boy's father and uncle on suspicion of snowmobiling while intoxicated.

The crash happened as Randy Langmaid, 37, and his 16-year-old son. Shane, were snowmobiling with Randy Langmaid's 27-year-old brother, Jonathan, according to a news release from Vermont State Police in Derby

Randy Langmaid broke his right

arm in the crash.

AMERICAN

ROUNDUP

an agreement to free \$587 million

in federal money to help sprawling Phoenix build a light rail system.

on something that is not focused on

the automobile would be foolhar-

ing the agreement with the mayors

of Phoenix, Tempe, Mesa and Glen-

freeway onramps during peak

hours, and it can easily take more

than an hour for motorists to get to

the outskirts from downtown dur-

ing rush hour. With light rail, it will take about 20 minutes to get

from downtown to Tempe and

about the same time to get to north

Besides easing traffic problems

Phoenix Mayor Phil Gordon said light rail will create 1.600 full-time

Hearings on shrimping

ABBEVILLE — Public hear-

discuss capping the number of

shrimp boats operating in federal

New rules tentatively adopted

by the Gulf of Mexico Fisheries

Management Council would limit

the shrimp fleet for the next de-

cade at about 2,800 boats — those

operating with federal permits at

After the council makes its final

decision following the public hear-

ings, the proposal would be passed

Doesn't look like fun

Brougham Elementary third-grader

Nick Jones takes a beanbag to the

forehead after he stuck his head in

a bull's eye during a family fun

night in Olathe, Kan.

the end of 2003

waters in the Gulf of Mexico.

ings are set for February to

Cars line up for blocks at some

dale

Phoenix

For Phoenix to "not plan ahead

Federal Transit Administrator Jennifer Dorn said after sign-

Magnet message

OR EUGENE — The University of Oregon is defending its decision to tell one of its delivery drivers to remove a "Support Our Troops" magnet from the state-owned truck he uses at work. Oregon law prohibits personal messages on state-owned vehicles

University President question the patriotism of the university.

New attention on grapes

CA BERKELEY — California grape growers and winebe left on the vine

grapes picked late to maximize fla-

But growers say that cuts into their per-ton profits because grapes lose weight as they ripen.

a major Napa Valley grower who recently organized a seminar on hang time that drew more than 500

known as extended ripening, has been around for at least five years, but the past year has brought increased attention, said Karen Ross, president of the California Association of Winegrape Growers in Sacramento.

Airport not proving itself

MO ST. LOUIS — At MidAmer-ica Airport, the parking is minal is gleaming.

sengers. Before the airport opened in 1997 in Mascoutah, Ill., about 20 miles east of St. Louis, studies pre-

main committed to the airport.

Lithia Springs, Ga., began offering a few flights a week out of the air port, flying passengers to and from Orlando, Fla. TransMeridian recently opted to extend its term at MidAmerica through Sept. 6.



regardless of the context. Frohnmayer said that driver Pete Baker will face no disciplinary action, and added that he was upset that the incident has led people to



makers are hung up on "hang time" - how long grapes should Some winemakers want the

"There's a lot of controversy about this," said Andy Beckstoffer,

The issue of hang time, also

free, the waits are short and the ter-But it needs some flights and pas-

dicted well over a million passengers by 2005. The 2004 figure: 7,800 passengers. However, Illinois officials re-

One new development has raised some optimism.

In November, TransMeridian Airlines, a charter airline out of



Pat Murphy, former soldier with the Honoring veterans 78th Infantry Division, second from bottom, flashes a peace sign on the floor of the Arkansas state Senate in Little Rock. as survivors of the Battle of the Bulge are honored.



For the birds Grackles perch on top of a tree in Abilene



Ethel Scobe takes her dog. A Penny for your walk Penny, for a walk in Wichita. Kan. The Boston terrier stays warm by wearing a fleece sweater.



Getting toasty

Blue skies

California sea lions sunbathe on a San Francisco boat dock.



A thick mist blankets the Willamette Valley floor at sunset near Springfield, Ore.



Early morning loner Separated from the rest of the herd, a lone Hereford cow is silhouetted against the sunrise near Mount Carroll, III.



Truck falls off bridge A truck is seen on its roof in the Middle Patuxent River along Intertor-trailer flipped off a bridge, landing upside down in a ravine below. The driver survived.

Arrested for drawings

CALA — Two boys were arrested for making pencil-and-crayon stick figure drawings depicting a 10-year-old classmate being stabbed and hung, police said. The children, charged with a felony, were taken from school in bandcuffs.

The 9- and 10-year-old boys were charged with making a written threat to kill or harm another person. They were also suspended from school.

Wife gets life sentence

PONTIAC — An elementary school teacher who hacked her husband to death with a hatchet was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

Before she was sentenced, Nancy Seaman read a statement in which she called the jury's guilty verdict "a miscarriage of justice" and a "tragic mistake." She said she would appeal. Prosecutors said Seaman argued

with her husband, Robert, last Mother's Day, went to Home Depot to buy a hatchet, returned to their home and killed him with it. Police found Robert Seaman's body in his wife's sport utility vehicle a few days later.

Nancy Seaman claimed that she bought the hatchet for yard work and that the couple got into an argument the next morning in which her husband of 31 years menaced her with a steak knife. She said she grabbed the nearest thing to defend herself.

Oakland County Circuit Judge John McDonald said he didn't "doubt for a minute" that Seaman was physically and emotionally abused. But he said jurors did not believe the abuse was so severe that it excused the slaying.

Heifer sells and resells

MISSOULA — A 520-pound heifer took center stage at the Missoula Livestock Exchange, where the animal was sold and resold about a dozen times to raise money for two groups opposed to relaxing restrictions on Canadian be

Auctioning the black Angus calf, along with a Western bronze statue and some other items, raised 5,500 to \$6,000 for the Montana 5,500 to \$6,000 for the Montana Cattlemen's Association and the Ranchers-Cattlemen Action Legal Fund, or R-CALF USA. R-CALF is the legal-action arm of the U.S. Stockgrowers Association.

The sale came nine days after auhorities confirmed another case of mad cow disease in Alberta, Canada. It was the second Canadian animal found to have the deadly brain-wasting disease since December when the United States announced that cross-border cattle trade would resume in March.

Abuse allegations bills

NH CONCORD — A bill being debated by the House would prevent people from reporting child abuse anonymously, a measure that has elicited concern from children's advocates.

Rep. Lars Christiansen, R-Hudson, said too many people are falsely accused of child abuse and never know who pointed the finger of blame. He said it all adds up to a violation of civil rights.

According to the state, only 6 per-

cent of child abuse calls are anonymous. Department of Children, Youth and Families investigators oppose the idea of forcing callers to identify themselves, and they insist that their work is not heavy-handed.

School honor protested

GA CANTON — Parents and students are speaking out against plans to name a new school for a Confederate-era governor.

The Cherokee County Board of Education voted 4-3 to name the

Education voted 4-3 to name the county's newest high school after former Gov. Joseph E. Brown.

However, some parents and students who will attend the school

say the name invites controversy.

Scott Rowland, who has three children, said naming the school after a Confederate governor

after a Confederate governor brings connotations of racism, "whether justified or not." Brown is referred to in the history books as a "rabid secessionist."

bown is referred to in the instry books as a "rabid secessionist." Ending slavery, he said, would lead to the South's ruin.

Besides teaching in Cherokee.

Besides teaching in Cherokee, Brown had a long-term interest in education. He was the first presient of the Atlanta Public Schools, and he was a founding board member at historically black Atlanta University, according to Cathy Loving-Pye, historian/archivist for Atlanta schools.

Park fees now law

TUCSON — Visitors to national forests and other federal lands who had hoped temporary recreation fees would soon vanish will have no such luck.

The fees were first imposed in 1996 on a temporary basis and have been renewed by Congress every two years since. But last fall, Congress wrote the fees into law for at least a decade.

Congress approved the law as part of a larger appropriations bill in November, and President Bush signed it Dec. 8.

Town's population back

RALEIGH — At the time of the 2000 census, Princeville was still mostly a disaster zone after being devastated by flooding from Hurricane Floyd. Many of its residents abandoned their homes for drier ground.

Town officials suspected then that the population would be undercounted because of the storm, and requested a special recount. Revised figures now show

Princeville, about 60 miles northeast of Raleigh, has 2,029 residents — more than twice as many as the 974 listed in the official 2000 count.

Foster parents punished PROVIDENCE — A Cran-

ston couple's foster license is on hold after a young man in their care shot himself in the leg with a gun found in the father's sock drawer.

The police said the bullet pierced 20-year-old Daniel Lillie's lower right thigh and exited just above the back of his knee. Veronica Manders, 38, told The

Providence Journal she plans to lobby DCYF to keep her foster-care license. She said the incident has caused she and her husband to separate. The couple have taken care of 20 foster children over the past eight years.

Stories and photos from wire services

FACES

Snoops get celebrity restraining order

Oscar-winning actress Nicole Kidman has asked a court to issue a restraining order against two Sydney photographers, their lawyer said.



Roland Day said his client, Jamie Fawcett, and another photographer he represents had been served papers saying Kidman's application would be heard in Waverly Local Court. Day wouldn't name the other photographer.

Police officers were called to Kidman's home after an electronic listening device was found near a security vehicle that was monitoring her mansion from the street.

The bug was apparently discovered when security officers searched the grounds in preparation for Kidman's return to film her new movie, "Eucalyp-

It wasn't immediately clear whether Kidman's application for a restraining order was related to that incident.

"Ms. Kidman appears to be trying to control how the media covers her personal and public life," Day said. He said his clients were merely doing their jobs and that granting Kidman's request would "have the danger-

ny of the media to do the same thing. Rowling announces name of baby

J.K. Rowling, creator of the "Harry Potter" boy-wizard fantasy book series, has named her new baby daughter Mackenzie.

The 39-year-old British author gave birth to her third child at Edinburgh Royal Infirmary. In a note posted on her Web site, Rowling wrote: "Her name is Mackenzie Murray (middle names Jean Rowling) and she is ridiculously beautiful, though I suppose I might be biased."

Rowling and her husband, Dr. Neil Murray, said they are "absolutely delighted" with their new arrival. The couple have a 22-month-old son, David, and Rowling has an 11-year-old daughter, Jessica, from a previous mar-

"Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince," the much-anticipated sixth book in the series, will be published on July 16

Actor not present for knife attack

A security guard at the London theater where Christian Slater had been performing was involved in a knife attack, a spokes-

man for Slater's play said Slater had already left the West End theater when the attack occurred, said Tom Coupe, a spokes-man for "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest," which ended its successful five-month run. The theater security guard wasn't injured, Coupe





ater," Coupe said. "Christian wasn't directly involved," Anna Arthur, Slater's publicist, said. "It's something that happened in the streets outside, there in the West End. It involved the security guards but not Christian.'

First 'Survivor' winner arraigned

Richard Hatch, the first winner of the hit CBS reality show "Survivor," was arraigned in federal court on charg es that he didn't pay taxes on his \$1



Hatch, a resident of Newport, istrate Judge Lincoln Almond that he understood the charges, and waived his right to a grand jury. Almond released Hatch

\$50,000 bond, which he posted following the hearing. Federal prosecutors charge that

Hatch, 43, filed false 2000 and 2001 tax returns, omitting his income from the show, as well as another \$321,000 he was paid by a Boston radio station.

The charges carry a maximum five years in federal prison and a \$250,000 fine for each charge.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press



Bobby McFerrin, second from left, his wife Debbie McFerrin, left, and their children attend a show in New York City on Nov. 15. McFerrin doesn't hate his most popular song - you know the one - but he won't perform it.

The disappearance of 'Don't worry, be happy'

He's pretty happy, but you aren't going to hear Bobby McFerrin's most famous song anytime soon — at least not from him

44 I don't rearet

its success at

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uears. It's still

out there:

people still

talk about it. 77

BY BRAD BARNES

Knight Ridder Newspapers

obby McFerrin does not perform his most famous song in concert But to quote that song: Don't worry, be happy His shows are a free-form amalgam of jazzy

singing, improvised voice work and audience participation. And, McFerrin hopes, they're lots of fun.

"I'd say 90 percent of the audiences might be a little disappointed [I didn't play the song]," he says, "but hopefully they've had so much fun between, you know, the first number and the last that they're OK.

"Every once in a while someone will say, 'How come vou didn't do "Don't Worry, Be Happy"?' But they're still asking for my autograph," he says.

"They're still taking pictures and we're all having a good time

The infectious melody of "Don't Worry, Be Happy" made it a No. 1 smash in 1988. with part of the charm coming from its novelty. McFerrin's voice provided 12 tracks of hums, bop-bops and doo-doots in lieu of any instrumental support.

But he has a love-hate relationship with the piece. Its success made McFerrin a household name. But it also defined the man - a jazz artist and the son of two classical vocalists — as a pop singer in the pub-

"I don't regret its success at all," McFerrin says. "It's still working for me, my goodness, after all

these years. It's still out there; people still talk about it. Companies use it for commercials or whatever. It's still working

Still, he hasn't performed the song in 17 years. Yet his Web site embraces it, with playful links like "Don't Worry. Be Bobby," and a collection of press quotes calling the man

a one-hit wonder. For the most part, critics have embraced McFerrin as a true innovator, unlike any vocalist before. That distinction might have come partly from his self-imposed exile from

other jazz singers "In the beginning, I purposely stayed away from listening to singers for two years," he says. "I

didn't want to, like, cop someone's licks, knowing how impressionable I am. I was afraid of doing such a diligent search in trying to find the voice that I would end up copying that voice, whoever it was. So I ac-tually made myself take a two-year fast from jazz singers.

"Once I got really comfortable with my technique, and I was beginning to under stand who I was, I started listening to othsays McFerrin, now 54.

(He doesn't remember who he broke his fast with. "That was a long, long time ago, he says. "It could've been Al Jarreau, could've been Jon Hendricks."

In keeping with that spirit of innovation, he starts every solo show by performing a song even he doesn't know.

He improvises. "I do the hardest thing first, the scariest thing first, which is to go out there without any ideas and just open my mouth and start

singing. And whatever it is, is what it is. It's Bobby McFerrin never a tune that anyone knows. It's never an identifiable piece," he says, "It's always Musician something that's made up on the spot. That may be 5 minutes of the show, or it might be 25 min-

utes. And after that, he draws in the spectators to help with the performance

"Some audiences are very conservative. They're not used to being told to sing with me," he says. "But I've never, never, never, ever failed to get an audience to sing."

YOUR MONEY

Premium air best saved for NASCAR

Dear Tom and Ray:

I recently heard about filling tires with nitrogen gas to maintain pressure and lengthen tread life. Since the air we hereathe is 78 percent nitrogen

breathe is 78 percent nitrogen,

I fail to see
how much
benefit you
actually get

Town and Ray Magliozzi

actually get Tom and I from changing from air to nitrogen. The
creators of this are selling it as
a safety issue. I'd hate to be
scammed into paying for premium air. I'm seeing Starbucks-style gasoline boutiques
in our near future. What do you
guys think? — Rob

TOM: My first thought is, I'm putting all my money into Airbucks!

RAY. Like many sales pitches, the nitrogen idea has a molecule of truth in it. You're right that normal atmospheric air is about 80 percent nitrogen already. The rest is made up of oxygen, argon, water vapor, cat dander, bad breath and coal-plant particulates. And the truth is, atmospheric air is absolutely good enough for filling your tires.

TOM: Pure nitrogen has a couple of advantages. One is that it expands and contracts less under hot and cold temperatures than a mixture of nitro-

gen, oxygen and water vapor. That can be an advantage if you're in, say, a race car driving at 200 mph around a track for 500 miles — where tiny differences in tire pressure and han-

dling can really matter. RAY: Nitrogen also

y Magnozzi desart support combustion like oxygen does. So it's unlikely to fuel a fire started in some other part of the car if a tire explodes. Of course, there's already plenty of combustible air all around the car, regardless of what's in

TOM: And finally, both the oxygen and the small percentage of moisture in the atmospheric air can contribute to degradation of the inside of your tires and wheels. But think about it: The outsides are exposed to the air all the time, so what are you worried about the insides for?

RAY: So, none of these advantages is important to the average driver. They just don't matter enough to ever think about. And they certainly don't matter enough to pay for, Rob.

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk section of cars.com on the World Wide Web. Distributed by King Features Syndicate inc.

Tips for retiring in 10 years

BY ROBERT POWELL

BOSTON — People expecting to retire in 10 years are frequently behind the eight ball.

Few, say surveys and pundits, have saved enough money to kick back in 2015 and enjoy a life of leisure. But you don't have to be a procrastinator, sprinting to retirement and hoping against hope to have enough money for cruises and grandchildren.

To be sure, it won't be easy. Indeed, only half of households with income between \$50,000 to \$99,000 have adequate retirement savings, according to one survey. Here's what experts say you have to do to reach your goal.

1. Plan, plan, and plan: If you

haven't done so already, it's time to start planning. Cynthia Egan. ment Servic director of the Retin es business unit of Fidelity Personal Investments, agrees that having a plan in place is critical in the home stretch to retirement. 'A good plan will give a realistic assessment of what you need, where you are, and what you should be doing to maximize those last 10 years of employment and saving," she says. "A good plan will make sure you are tak-ing full advantage of any corporate benefits, tax-advantaged vehicles like 401(k)s, IRAs and 529s and that you are realistic about retirement dates and how long your money needs to last.

2. Crunch the numbers: If you haven't done so, sit down and crunch the numbers using realistic assumptions to see if your retirement goal is reasonable, says

Rande Spiegelman of Charles Schwab. "It's better to know now whether your goal is reasonable or not." Spiegelman says his reality check involves the following three sters:

Expenses: How much will you spend in retirement? To be safe, figure you'll need as much in retirement as you did before retirement; some expenses may go away, others may take their place. Remember to factor in inflation.

■ Nest Egg: How big of a portfolio do you need to support your spending goal? To have a high probability that you'll susted your lifestyle, adjusted for inflation over a 30-year time horizon, you should target a portfolio roughly equal to 25 times your first-year withdrawal amount.

Savings: How much do you need to save to achieve your objective? Take into account what you've already saved, what you expect to earn on your investments, and calculate what you need to save between now and your target retirement date.

3. Expect the unexpected: It's easy, in some ways, to project future streams of income from pensions, annuities, Social Security, investment income and retirement plan income. It's even easy to determine what your expenses might be. The hard part is planing for those unexpected expensions for those unexpected expensions.

4. Save more: No matter how much you've set aside, or how much it may grow to, or how much your employer or Social Security will provide, save more, says Steve Leimberg, author of "Tools and Techniques of Finan-

"Use these last few years to save and invest every additional nickel you can," he adds, "because two things are virtually certain: Your money will not earn what it was projected to earn after taxes just a few years ago, and food, clothing, shelter and life-style will cost more than you expected or projected." Indeed, a cup of coffee that now costs \$1.50 will cost \$3.64 if inflation remains at 3 percent per year. But if inflation doubles to 6 percent, that cup of coffee will cost \$8.62.

5. Use tax-deferred savings vehicles. There's nothing quite like tax-deferred savings accounts, says Ed Slott, author of "The Re-Bours of the savings accounts, and the saving accounts of the saving accounts of the saving accounts of the saving account of the sa

6. Get smart. One-third of current retirees say they wish they'd educated themselves about different retirement savings options, according to Allstate's "Retirement Reality Check." What's more, I in 5 seniors who admit to being unprepared for retirement say their biggest concern was that they didn't understand investing.

1. Get activide. Everyone has had on her own distinct goals, risk tolerance and existing savings, says Scott Budde, a TIAA-CREF managing director of investment managinement. Even among a particular age group these factors can vary greatly. "So we find that vary greatly "So we find that particular person," be says. His suggestion: Seek personalized advice tailored to your specific situation."

WEDNESDAY'S MARKET SUMMARY

INDEXES							
52-week High Low	Name	Last	Net Chg	% Chg 9	YTD 6 Chg	52-wk % Chg	
10,868.07 9,708.40	Dow Jones Industrials	10,498.59	+37.03	+.35	-2.64	+.29	
3,823.96 2,743.46	Dow Jones Transportation	3,537.40	+7.15	+.20	-6.86	+19.20	
337.79 259.08	Dow Jones Utilities	337.39	+5.60	+1.69	+.73	+24.23	
7,273.18 6,211.33	NYSE Composite	7,046.40	+47.76	+.68	-2.81	+7.48	
1,437.46 1,150.74	Amex Index	1,420.49	+12.53	+.89	97	+17.59	
2,191.60 1,750.82	Nasdaq Composite	2,046.09	+26.14	+1.29	-5.95	-1.51	
1,217.90 1,060.72	S&P 500	1,174.07	+5.66	+.48	-3.12	+4.04	
666.99 548.29	S&P MidCap	637.64	+6.42	+1.02	-3.87	+8.21	
656.11 515.90	Russell 2000	616.57	+10.07	+1.66	-5.37	+5.59	
12,024.36 10,268.52	DJ Wilshire 5000	11,556.83	+72.95	+.64	-3.46	+4.90	

NYSE				Аме				Nasd	AQ		
Most	ACTIVE	(\$1 or	MORE)	Most	ACTIVE	(\$1 or	MORE)	Most	ACTIVE	(\$1 or	MORE)
Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg	Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg	Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
Lucent	547056	3.27	+.14	SPDR	551692	117.23	+.35	SiriusS	1164857	6.18	06
Corning	298032	10.95	56	SemiHTr	255382	30.96	+.74	Nasd100Tr		37.15	+,44
Textrst	265142	22.66	+1.54	iShRs2000		122.55	+1.65	Oracle	779565	13.62	+.03
Pfizer	245235	24,59		DJIA Diam	77799	104.79	+.23	Cisco	728624	17.69	+.18
EMC Co	210892	12.78		iShJapan	68807	10.69	+.17	Intel	687057	22,42	+.16
NekiaCp	207185	14.33	+.31	OBSVHT	55160	88.55	+1.03	Microsoft	642770	26.01	01
GenElec	205419	35.49	21	SP Engy	34774	37.23	+.36	ApidMati	443215	16.12	+.47
MagnHunt	189331	14.85	+1.61	IvaxCp s	31838	15.30	+.55	SunMicro	436163	4.15	+.01
TimeWarn	189147	18.15	11	Nabors	25703	50.19	+.52	JDS Unioh	367743	2.45	+.06
Motorola	165770	15.65	+.30	WheatR g	20917	3.29	+.10	Symantec	s 344385	22.84	+.55

KEY D	414	ISE	Sto	CKS		Key Mutua	\L.
Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg	Name	NA
Alliant Technosystem Armor Holdings	-	16 28	64.92 43.04	+.72	7 -8.5	Fidelity Invest: GroInc Fidelity Invest: GroCo	37. 52.1
Boeing Computer Sciences	1.00	14	49.86 50.80	+.02	-3.7 -9.9	Amer Century Inv: Ultra Fidelity Spartan: Epidx	28.
Engineered Sup Sys General Dynamics	.07	21	57.40 102.48	+1.44	-3.1 -2.0	Putnam Funds A: GrinA p Fidelity Invest: A Mor	18.1
General Electric Halliburton	.88	22	35.49 42.74	+.14	-2.8 +8.9	Frank/Temp Frnk A: SMCpGrA AIM Investments A: Const p	32.1
Harris Corp. Allied Signal	.48	25 22	55.41 35.75	+1.14	-10.3 +1.0	Fidelity Invest: USBI Fidelity Invest: Ovrsea	11.
L-3 Communications Lockheed Martin	.40 1.00	21 20	69.41 55.23	+.56	-5.2 6	Fidelity Advisor T: GrOppT Fidelity Advisor T: EginT	29,
NorthrpG s Raytheon	.92	18 42	51.63 37.00	+.38	-5.0 -4.7	Scudder Funds S: GroincS Putnam Funds A: GibEaty p	21.
Rockwell Intl. Segua Corp.	.66	25 35	54.78 58.20	+2.29	+10.6	AIM Investments A: ChartA p AIM Investments A: WeinpA p	12.
Texas Instruments Textron Inc.	.10 1.40	21 30	22.66 70.08	+1.54	-8.0 -5.0	Merrill Lynch I: BalCapl Scudder Funds S: Intl FdS	26.
United Technologies	1.40	18	100.82	+1.24	-2.4	Edello Adrice Tr Oreco T	17

Name	NAV	Chg.	%Re
Fidelity Invest: GroInc	37.18	+.13	-2
Fidelity Invest: GroCo	52.86	+.64	-5
Amer Century Inv: Ultra Fidelity Spartan: Epidx	28.34	+.27	-3
Putnam Funds A: GrinA o	18.87	+.20	- 3
Fidelity Invest: A Mor	15.96	+.07	- 3
Frank/Temp Frnk A: SMCpGrA	32.89	+.38	- 3
AIM Investments A: Const p	21.96	+.19	- 3
Fidelity Invest: USBI	11.15	*****	- 4
Fidelity Invest: Ovrsea	34.15	+.40	-3
Fidelity Advisor T: GrOppT	29,43	+.15	-3
Fidelity Advisor T: EqinT	27.54	+.17	-2
Scudder Funds S: GroineS	21.26	+.12	-2
Putnam Funds A: GlbEqty p	8.23	+.07	-2
AIM Investments A: ChartA p	12.45	+.05	- 4
AIM Investments A: WeingA p	12.60 26.26	+.12	- 1
Merrill Lynch I: BalCapl Scudder Funds S: Intl FdS	43.14	+.05	-1
Fidelity Advisor T: OvrseaT	17.14	+.40	3
Lord Abbett A: DevGtA p	15.00	+.26	3
Scudder Funds S: Income S	13.01	1.20	- 4
Merrill Lynch I: USGvtMta	10.29	01	- 4
Scudder Funds S: Devel	19.05	+.14	- 4
Putnam Funds A: GIGvA p	13.09	+.07	- 5

EXCHANGE RATES

Dollar buys€0.7461
British nound \$1.93
British pound
South Korean won (Jan. 27)1.007.00
Commercial rates
Bahrain (Dinar)0.37698
British pound\$1.8818
Canada (Dollar)1.2337
Denmark (Krone)5.39
Egypt (Pound)5.8716
Euro\$1.3070/0.7651
Hong Kong (Dollar)7.7988
Hungary (Forint)187.12
Iceland (Krona)61.00
Israel (Shekel)44111
Japan (Yen)102.97
Kuwait (Dinar)0.29190
Kuwait (Dinar)
Norway (Krone)5.96 Philippines (Peso)55.32
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)3.58
Singapore (Dollar)1.6318
South Korea (Won)10315
South Korea (Worl)1031.50
Switzerland (Franc)1.12
Thailand (Baht)38.60
Turkey (New Lira)1.3235
(Military exchange rates are those
available to customers at military bank-
ing facilities in the country of issuance
for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the
Netherlands and the United Kingdom.
For nonlocal currency exchange rates
(i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germa-

PRECIOUS METALS

(i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is

| London close | \$424. | Silver | \$6.

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	5.25
Discount rate	3.25
Federal funds market rate2	
3-month bill	.2.42
30-year bond	.4.66
Sources: The Associated Press, Bar	k of
America	

Cents and Sensibility Money tip of the day

Be pro when leaving job

BY MARSHALL LOEB

MarketWatch

NEW YORK — Leaving your job can be stressful, whether you're moving on by choice or if you've been fired or downsized.

Even though emotions may be running high, now isn't the time to let them overwhelm you, which was a long to make the book, "Can I Lie on My Resume?" Put your best face forward, even if you're angry, scared or excited about leaving. Also:

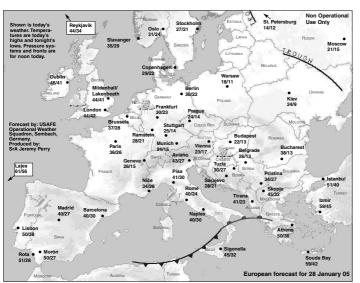
■ Don't slack off on work during the final days. Do what you need to prepare for your new job, but don't ignore the one you're wrapping up.

Leaving lots of unfinished projects and other tasks gives employers and co-workers a less-than-stellar final impression of you. For long-term or multistage projects, make sure whoever picks up your portion of the work will see a smooth transition

Keep your bridges intact. Even though your last days in a workplace may seem like the perfect time to tell off a snotty co-worker or really let the boss have it... don't. You never know when you might encounter these people again on your career path. They might eventually be in a position to recommend you for a job or even hire you again,

■ Be kind to your replacement. If you are expected to stay on for a period of time to train a new person, don't give in to feelings of resentment about being replaced, or to worries that this new person will do your job better. Make sure he or she is prepared to do your job well.

so don't blow it now.



2

Occluded fr. Staty. front MIDEAST Mazar-e-Sharif 36/20 • Islam 55/35 37/8 37/20 New Delhi Bag 49/33 36/20 55/21 • 69 44 -1 47 74 12 34 10 47 84/66 Karac 73/51

EUROPEAN FORECAST

Benelux: Mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers and snowshowers. Highs in the mid to upper 30s. Saturday lows in the mid to upper

20s. Britain, Ireland: Mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the mid 40s. Saturday lows in the lower

Croatia and Bosnia: Mostly cloudy with snow. Fog on Saturday morning. Highs in the upper 20s to lower 30s. Saturday lows in the 20s

France: Mostly cloudy with isolated snowshowers and rainshowers. Highs in the mid 30s. Saturday lows in the mid 20s.

Northern Germany: Mostly cloudy with snow. Highs in the upper 20s to lower 30s. Saturday lows in the lower 20s.

Southern Germany: Mostly cloudy with snow. Highs in the mid 20s to lower 30s. Saturday lows in the mid teens to lower 20s.

Hungary: Mostly cloudy with isolated snow showers. Highs in the lower 20s. Saturday lows in the lower

Northern Italy: Partly to mostly cloudy. Highs in the lower 40s. Saturday lows in the mid 20s to lower 30s

Southern Italy: Partly to mostly cloudy withrainshowers and isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the lower to mid 40s. Saturday lows in the lower 30s.

Kosovo: Mostly cloudy with isolated snowshowers. Highs in the lower to mid 30s. Saturday lows in the mid to upper 20s.

Norway: Mostly cloudy with isolated snowshowers. Highs in the lower to mid 30s. Saturday lows in the mid to upper 20s.

Portugal, Spain: Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 40s to lower 50s. Saturday lows in the upper 20s to upper 30s.

Turkey: Mostly cloudy with rainshow-ers. Highs in the 50s. Saturday lows in the 40s.

For current weather watches, warnings, and 5-day forecasts go to the USAFE Operational Weather Squadron home

https://ows.sembach.af.mil http://ows.public.sembach.af.mil

SUN & MOON

First qtr. 16 Feb 05 New moon 8 Feb 05

TODAY'S STATESIDE OUTLOOK

4

*

AFRICA

Pt. Cldy. Mostly cldy

13 Cr 25 City 28 PCity 34 PCity 34 PCity 45 Cit 55 City 26 City 26 City 27 City 27 City 28 PCity 28 PCity 24 PCity 24 PCity 25 Snow 31 14 PCity 24 PCity 26 City 27 PCity 28 Snow 31 11 PCity 21 City 22 City 24 PCity 25 Snow 31 11 PCity 24 PCity 26 PCity 27 City 28 PCity 27 City 28 PCity 28 PCity 29 Snow 31 11 PCity 21 City 22 City 24 PCity 26 PCity 27 City 28 PCity 28 PCity 28 Snow 31 11 PCity 27 City 28 PCity 39 PCity 28 PCity 39 PCity 24 PCity 39 PCity 26 PCity 27 City 39 PCity 39 PCity 28 PCity 39 PCity 24 PCity 39 PCity 39 PCity 24 PCity 39 PCity 30 PCity 30 PCity 30 PCity 31 PCity 31 PCity 32 PC 25 46 43 48 29 16 63 50 29 64 47 31 72 25 60 31 23 50 39 11 30 41 24 41 28 56 33 46 72 47 72 1 5724 14 50 20 50 17 35 42 42 55 28 55 50 44 36 42 19 21 74 16 11 9 45 46 36 39 44 45 29 36 41 10 22 65 33 12 22 30 11 47 14 50 26 32 19 29 13 11 11 11 11 4 22 33 19 22 31 24 18

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THE UNITED STATES TODAY





Check our Relocation Guide every Saturday to find Realtors at your new station.



Horoscope

Mars and Pluto buddy up for some cosmic rock 'n' roll. Areas of life that have suffered from a lack of

confrontation now receive due attention - not to mention a fierce attitude. It doesn't always take a revolution to change some one's mind or to handle a squirrelly situation, but if revolt seems necessary. many people are willing to go there

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (January 28). This year

features your sensational rise to a position you've had your eye on for several years now You're going about business in a more politically savvy manner and therefore find yourself in favor with fellow diplomats. A well-constructed financial plan is your ticket to higher earnings. Make your romantic feelings known in May

ARIES (March 21-April 19).

You're inventive and sharp. But be careful not to overdo things. It's the simple idea that takes off like a rocket. A Gemini or Sagittarius will help you fulfill a tall order in the easiest possible manner

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your mind needs some extra help in

getting going. Confused emotions could be putting a damper on your synapses. Deep breathing helps. The more you read, the better you think

GEMINI (May 21-June 21).

Listen: The faint echoes of 1,000 violins play in the distance. Why do people tug on your heartstrings so? Perhaps because you are easily swayed by stories of an unhappy childhood

CANCER (June 22-July 22).

Just because you've been unaware of a trend thus far doesn't mean the trend doesn't exist. Look for possible natterns in your relationshins. Discovering a self-perpetuated cycle could set you free

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll hear some pretty silly excuses as to why someone didn't come through

for you. But you'll probably be too busy accepting the gracious generosity from other people to care! A Libra flirts with you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Fighting for someone else's rights

Holiday Mathis

brings out the warrior in vou. "No" is not an option. and you're willing to make a scene if that's what it takes. You're now the sign most likely to be called to jury duty.

LIBRA (Sept.

23-Oct. 23). The rules are simple now, so follow them instead of looking for deeper explanations Be wary of people who need to dominate the

conversation. If you take the relationship further, they may bully you in other ways

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Exterior influences promise to soothe and calm you. They can't take the place of internal satisfac-

tion, though. You are quite susceptible to advertising, so be careful not to fall into a consumer vortex SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The energy of love is always

there; we need only be open to it. Reaching out to friends, howeve small the gesture, will bring about a generally uniting energy. Feelings of isolation melt away.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan.

19). Defenses are there for a reason, right? Without them, wouldn't you crumble? Maybe not. It's more likely that you're holding onto a certain coping mechanism out of habit. Let go, and you'll become invulnerable

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Wisdom comes from the mouths of babes - or at least from the mouth

of someone you formerly didn't consider wise. You'll recognize the rightness of a statement and be utterly shocked.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You hurl yourself into the pool of life

without concern for safety or liability - which is just as it should be! Your cannonball style looks like so much fun to everyone else that you'll soon attract a crowd of wannabe revelers.

Creators Syndicate

Bailey

Worse

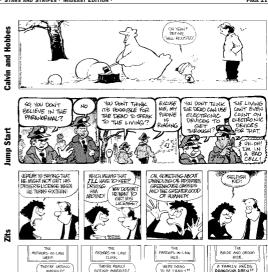
5

Peanuts













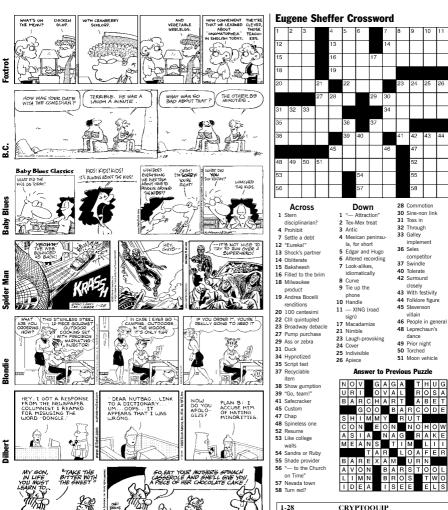
AND NOW A



HOWEVER ..









D C V Z, A M J E T A T Z E S Z O ."

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHICH PROMINENT
SWORDSMEN SHOULD DWELL IN OMAN'S
CAPITAL? THE THREE MUSCAT-EERS!

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: M equals H

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

What's it going to be?

Ship! This

Report online predator promptly

Dear Abby: My brother re cently discovered that his 16year-old stepdaughter has been chatting online with a man ir another state, up to and including phone sex. He went into her e-mail without her permission to see what was going on after she

ran up a \$300 phone bill. When he confronted her about the bill, she lied and said she had been talking to a girl friend. Her mother - my brother's wife - thinks her daughter would never do anything wrong and gets mad at my brother if he implies otherwise. He doesn't want to do anything about the situation for

fear of her wrath.

I say, the girl's safety is more important than a fight with his wife. Do you know if there's a task force that he could e-mail this information to and remain anonymous? I would like to see that man caught before something horrible hannens to this beautiful young girl.

- Protective in Colorado

been victimized by a predator. Your brother's wife is doing her daughter no good by behaving like an ostrich and pretending this incident never happened.

There are several things you brother can do. He should contact his local FBI office

and/or visit the Web site www.fbi.gov and check out the area devoted to cyber crimes — specifically crimes against children under "What We Inves-tigate." If he is referred to his local police de partment, he should contact them immedi ately so they can inves-tigate further. The National Center for

Missing and Exploited Children also has an informative Web site, www.missingkids.com, which provides information regarding exploited children and an opportunity to report it.

Dear Abby: I am a single woman, and while I have kissed a

lot of men, only a few were great kissers. You don't want to give up on a great guy because his kiss is only average. I gently tried to provide a bit of coaching with an ex, but it made him defensive.

How do you teach a middle-aged man to kiss? Before I get into another relationship, a little advice in this area would be helpful. Also, would you approach it early on — or after there is an established relationship?

 Wants a Great Kisser Dear Wants: Since different people are turned on by different things, no one should expect to get it right on the first try A considerate kisser wants to

The best way I know of to "teach" a middle-aged man to – or a young one or an old one, for that matter — is to dem-onstrate, demonstrate. Practice makes perfect, and the time to approach it is soon after he makes his next attempt.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can writ to Abby on the Internet at http://www.uexpress.com/dearabby Universal Press Syndicate

Unscramble these four Jumbles one letter to each square to form four ordinary words.



REECCO

Print answer here:

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon

KNITTED WITH A COMPLEX STITCH

Yesterday's

Jumbles: LEGAL Answer-

(Answers tomorrow) PAGAN INLAID AERATE The baldheaded friends had a difficult time doing this -- "PARTING"

Spouse should check out vasectomy

Dear Annie: I am a 36-year-old mother of two. After our first child was born, I suffered four miscarriages, two of which required a D&C, which created adhesions from scar tissue. I under went two hysteroscopies and an emergency lanaroscopy. After all this we were able to have a second child, delivered via C-section. But I then had another miscarriage and decided enough was enough I don't want to get pregnant again

I would like my husband to have a vasectomy, but he refuses Our current form of birth control is the withdrawal method, which isn't much fun, not to mention it's not the most effective. Frankly, I've been poked and prodded enough, and I don't want to under go more surgery for a tubal ligation. Birth control pills are not an option, and I have an allergy to latex, so condoms are out

On top of my medical history. it's cheaper for my husband to have a vasectomy, and the recov-

ery time is fairly quick. A tubal would require a month off work without Annie's Mailbox pay, not to mention the

increased risks and chance of infection My mother-in-law as her boy convinced he'll suffer lifelong urinary infections if he undergoes a vasectomy. I think my husband believes he'll be some how less of a man, so he

is dead-set against it. - Southwest Sufferer Dear Southwest: It doesn't say much about your husband's character that he would put his macho pride above your health. We won't even get into his intrusive mother,

who has no business being part of this decision For the record, vasectomies are quite safe and have absolutely no effect on a man's sexual drive or masculinity. If your husband is

worried about surgery, he can look into non-surgical options Dear Annie: For years, my husband and I have been helping our daughter and son-in-law by

taking care of their three children whom we dearly love. When our daughter was working, she paid us a little, although it didn't cover the cost of the children's food or the gas to take them to and from school. Now that she is back in college, she says she can't pay us

anything at all We have the grandkids every day. At dinner, their parents stop by to eat with us. Money that we hoped to have for our golden vears is dwindling away. How do e tell our daughter she needs to help us with the cost of caring for her children, or she needs to take care of them herself?

- Almost Broke Grandma Dear Grandma: You tell her in plain English. She is taking advantage of you because you permit it. Inform your daughter that she needs to find other arrangements, because you no longer have the time or money to raise her children. It's her turn. Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, Iongtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox/ecomeast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, coreators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd, Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

Creators Syndicate

Family Circus



"Oh, no! I lost my knot!"

Sequitu

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MAGA









SCOREBOARD

AFN TV & Radio

Friday

AFN-Sports, 9 a.m.—Golf: Bob Hope Chrysler Classic, second round (dld). AFN-Sports, 11 a.m.—Tennis: Australian AFN-Sports, 11 a.m.—lennis: Australian Open (dld).
AFN-Sports, 1 p.m.—College basketball: washington at Arizona (dld).
AFN-Sports, 3 p.m.—College basketball: Or-egon at California (dld).
AFN-Sports, 8 p.m.—Tennis: Australian Open, men's semilinfial No. 2 (dld).

Saturday

orts, 1 a.m.-NBA: Cleveland at lew York. AFN-Radio, 1 a.m. – NBA: Toronto at Char-AFN-Ratintic, 1:30 a.m.—Boxing: Friday Night Fights, Teddy Reld (22-5-1) vs. Rodney Jones (34-3), junior middleweights. AFN-Sports, 3:30 a.m.—Tennis: Australian Com wompn's final. AFN-Sports, 3:30 a.m.—Tennis: Australian Ipen women's final. AFN-Pacific, 3:30 a.m.—NBA: Sacramento APN-Pacific, 3:39 a.m.—NISA: Sacramento at Houston.
APN-Atlantic, 4 a.m.—Motor sports:
Paris-Dakar Rally (did).
APN-Sports, 9 a.m.—Golf: Bob Hope Chrysler Classic, 3rd round (did).
APN-Sports, 100 mon-Tennis: Australian Open women's final (did).
APN-Sports, 130 p.m.—NBA: Cleveland at New York (did).

vew York (dld).

AFN-Sports, 6 p.m.—College basketball:
North Carolina at Virginia.
AFN-Pacific, 7 p.m.—College basketball:
South Carolina at Florida.
AFN-Astiantic, 7:30 p.m.—College basketsall: North Carolina St. at Clemson.
AFN-Sports, 8 p.m.—NET Road to the Pro Bowl. AFN-Sports, 9:30 p.m.—College basketball: Kentucky at Arkansas. AFN-Atlantic, 10 p.m.—College basketball: Miami at Wake Forest.

All times are Central European Time; did in-dicates delayed broadcast. All listings are subject to change. Visit www.myafn.net for

Pro football

Playoffs

Wild-card Playoffs Saturday, Jan. 8 St. Louis 27, Seattle 20 N.Y. Jets 20, San Diego 17, OT Sunday, Jan. 9 Indianapolis 49, Denver 24 Minnesota 31, Green Bay 17 Divisional Playoffs Divisional Playoff: Saturday, Jan. 15 Pittsburgh 20, N.Y. Jets 17, OT Atlanta 47, St. Louis 17 Sunday, Jan. 16 Philadelphia 27, Minnesota 14 New England 20, Indiagnostic

Philadelphia 27, Minimesota La New England 20, Indianapolis 3 Conference Champions's Sunday, Jan. 22 New England 41, Pittsburgh 27 Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 46 Philadelphia vs. New England Pro Bowl Sunday, Feb. 13 AFC vs. NFC

College basketball

Men's Top 25 fared

Wednesday

1. Illinois (20-0) did not play. Next: vs. Minesota, Saturdav.

12. Eduisville (17-3) beat Marquette 99-52. Next: at Tulane, Saturday, 13. Oklahoma (16-2) did not play. Next: at lowa State, Saturday. 14. Alabama (16-3) beat Auburn 60-55. 14. Alabama (16-3) beat Auburn 60-55. Next. vs. Georgia Saturday.3 did not play. Next. vs. Michigan, Thursday. 16. Texas (15-4) did not play. Next. at No. 6 Kansas, Saturday. 17. Gorzaga (14). 18. Wisconsin (13-4) did not play. Next. vs. 18. Wisconsin (13-4) did not play. Next. at Penn State, Saturday.

Penn State, Saturday. 19. Connecticut (12-4) did not play. Next: at Notre Dame, Sunday. 20. Pittsburgh (13-3) did not play. Next: vs. No. 4 Syracuse, Saturday. 21. Cincinnati (15-3) did not play. Next: at

21. Cincinnatt (15-3) did not play. Next: at South Florida, Thursday. South Florida, Thursday. Val. Next: S. No. 5 Wake Forest, Thursday. 23. lows (14-5) lost to Northwestern 75-74. Next: vs. Indiana, Saturday. 24. Mississippi State (16-4) did not play. Val. Mississippi State (16-4) did not play. Programme (17-3) did not play. Next: at Brigham Young, Monday.

Wednesday's men's scores

Adelphi 66, Mercy, N.Y. 60 Albright 67, Susquehann

Besthany, W. Va., SS, Wayneshurg E.B.
Besthany, W. Va., SS, Wayneshurg E.B.
Beston U. 79, New Humpshire of
Boston U. 79, New Humpshire of
Brodling of P. Munter B.
C. W. Polit SB, New Humpshire of
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Edition of P.
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Alabama 60, Auburn 55 Charlotte 94, TCU 87 Charlotte 94, ICU 8/ Christopher Newport 60, Averett 51 Clayton St. 63, Armstrong Atlantic 59 Coppin St. 78, Md.-Eastern Shore 55

Coppin St. 78, Md. -Easter'n Shore Davidson 63, ETSU 67. Louis 53 Errory, & Jenny 71, Washington 8 Errory 8, Washington 8 Florida St. 70, N.C. State 64 George Mason 94, Hofstra 78 Hampden-Sydney 83, Guilford 78 High Point 88, VMI 72 Jacksonville 70, Stetson 58 James Madison 66, Va. Comeno 56 n & Lee 56 monwealth 58 James Madison 66, Va. Common Kennesaw 73, Georgia College 56 LSU 70, Mississippi 60 Louisville 99, Marquette 52 Maryland 75, Duke 66 Miami 69, Clemson 65 Milami 89, Clemson 65 N.C.-Wilmington 63, Drexel 62, OT Old Dominion 71, Delaware 62 Presbyterian 87, Tusculum 187 Randolph-Macon 68, Lynchburg 58 Rolling 75, Florida Tech 54 S.C.-Alken 80, N.C.-Pembroke 68 S.C.-Upstate 75, Francis Marion 55 Savannah Art 86, Webber 81, OT Shenandoah 78, Ferrum 71, OT Shenandoah 78, Ferrum 71, OT Shenandoah 78. Ferrum 71, 01 South Carolina 68, Vanderbillt 63 Spalding 45, Berea 42 St. Leo 70, Florida Southern 65 Troy 84. Georgia 51, 73 William & Mary MDWEST Albion 74, Kalamazoo 63 Anderson, Ind. 83, Manchester 64 Augustana III. 59, North Central 54 Aufora 73, Benedictine-III. 70

Heastings 84, Duna 69
Hillinois Westings 22, Millikin 66
Indiana Tech 100, Madorna 75
Indiana Tech 100, Madorna 75
Indiana Tech 100, Madorna 75
Loyola of Chicago 71, Youngstown S1, 50
Millivaukee Engineering 64, Edgewood 58
Millivaukee Engineering 64, Edgewood 58
Millivaukee Engineering 64, Edgewood 58
Momingside 74, Sicusz Falls 59
Momingside 74, Sicusz Falls 59
Moutet Million 107, Marietta 88
Muskingum 51, Willinnigton, Ohlo 45
Muskingum 51, Willinnigton, Ohlo 45
Nowa 69, Indiana 51, 61 N. Iowa 69, Indiana St. 61 Nebraska 77, Texas A&M 67 Nebraska Wesleyan 65, Doa Northwestern 75, Iowa 74, OT Ohio 76, Toledo 68

Otterbein 83, Ohio Northern 82 Rockford 84, Dominican, III, 45 S. Indiana 89, Oakland City 59 SW Missouri St. 92, S. Illinois 77 St. John's, Minn. 58, St. Olaf 45 St. Mary's, Minn. 61, Augsburg 49 St. Thomas, Minn. 69, Macalester 64 St. Thomas, Minn. 69, Macalester 64
St. Xayler 71, St. Francis, III, 55
X. Xayler 71, St. Francis, III, 55
X. Xayler 71, St. Francis, III, 55
X. Yayler 71, St. Francis, III, 55
X. Yayler 71, St. Yayler Wooster 90, Allegheny 57 Wright St. 72, III.-Chicago 61 SOUTHWEST Henderson St. 72, Arkansas Baptist 66 Lamar 92, Nicholis St. 74 Texas A&M-Corpus Christi 66, Texas-Pan

Texas Aom-Luipus Cinizu Ce, Jamerican GI
Texas-Arlington 62, Stephen F.Austin 55
Tulane 63, Houston 61
FAR WEST
Colorado 64, Missouri 62 Women's Top 25 fared Wednesday

1. Duke (18-2) did not play. Next: vs. No. 20
Maryland, Thursday.

2. LSU (18-1) did not play. Next: vs. Auburn,
Sunday.

3. Ohio State (19-2) did not play. Next: at Misconsin, Thursday,
 Stanford (17-2) did not play. Next: at Washington, Thursday.
 Tennessee (14-3) did not play. Next: at "5. Tenhressec (14.3)" (all not play, Next: at South Carolina, Thurgday, S. pohris 72-65. South Carolina, Thurgday, S. pohris 72-65. Next at Oklahoma State, Saturday, 7. Baylor (14.4) beat 19:14 Boston, Oh. B. Rutgers (14.4) beat 19:14 Boston, Oh. 9. Connecticut (13-4) beat Pittsburgh 9. Connecticut (13-4) beat Pittsburgh 9. Connecticut (13-4) beat Pittsburgh 9. Sone 19:14 Boston, Oh. 9. Sone 19:14 Boston 12. North Carolina (15-3) did not play. Next: vs. Wake Forest, Thursday. 13. Texas Tech (15-3) beat Missouri 75-45. Next: at Texas A&M, Sunday. 14. Boston College (14-3) lost to No. 8 Rut. 14. Boston College (14-3) lost to No. 8 Rut. 15. Texas (11-6) beat Oktahoma 83-71, OT. Next: at Missouri, Saturday. 16. Kansas State (15-3) did not play. Next: 16. Kansas State (15-3) did not play. Next: 14. Did November 16-30 did not play. Next: vs. UAB. Friday. 17. DePaul (15-5) und los paul.
UAB, Friday.
18. Iowa State (15-2) did not play. Next: at
Oklahoma, Saturday.
19. Georgia (15-5) did not play. Next: vs.
Florida, Thursday. 130. Georgia (15-5) did not play. Next: vs. 20. Maryland (13-4) did not play. Next: at No. 1 Duke, Thursday. 12. Playing the 16-2) did not play. Next: at No. 1 Duke, Thursday. 22. Penn State (12-5) did not play. Next: at Northwestern (19-24) did not play. Next: at Northwestern (19-24) did not play. Next: at Senting (19-24) did not play. Next: vs. 20. Playing (19-24) did not play. Next: vs. 20. Playing (19-24) did not play. Next: vs. 20. Playing (19-24) did not play. Next: vs. 20. North Carolina State (15-4) did not play. Next: vs. 1 Duke, Sunday.

Wednesday's women's scores

Wednesday's women's so Activation to Management of the Control of Mansfield 72, Bloomsburg 65 Misericordia 67, Arcadia 60 Moravian 75, Elizabethtown) n 67 Moravian 75, Elizabethrown 67 New Haven 55, C.W. Post 53 Pitt.-Johnstown 73, California, Pa. 70 Rowan 85, Rutger-5 Camben 58 Rutger 37, Boston College 60 Seton Hall 63, Georgetown 47 Shippensburg 52, Lock Haven 42 St. Thomas Aquinas 67, Queen Soll. 55 Staten Island 73, John Jay 76 Stevens' Tech 6, Manhattarville 48

miliar-hinds@tankmonamara.com

Swarthmore 68, Haverford 49 Washington & Jefferson 65, Westminster,

va. 55
West Chester 78, Kutztown 68
West Virginia 81, Syracuse 50
Widener 59, Messalah 75
William Paterson 68, Montclair St. 64
York, Pa. 90, Gallaudet 59
SOUTH

Christophe New SOUTH . World 15 Claylor 9. 68. April 1

Ball St. 79, W. Michigan 70 Bethel, Minn. 74, St. Catherine 55 Calvin 64, Alma 52 Capital 65, Heidelberg 63 Capital 65, Heidelberg 63
Carleton 68, Hamiline 82
Cent. Missouri 73, NW. Missouri 51, 72
Cent. Missouri 73, NW. Missouri 61, 72
Cent. Missouri 73, NW. Missouri 63
Cornerstone 65, Adulhas 51
Cornerstone 65, Adulhas 6 Tri-State 97, Adrian 83 Viterbo 51, Mount Mercy 48 Waldorf 67, Grand View 61 Washburn 73, Pittsburn St. 49 Wilmington, Ohio 93, Muskingum 53 Wils-Green Bay 88, Cleveland St. 59 Wils-Green Bay 88, Cleveland St. 59 Arkansas St. 87, Texas A&M-Corpus Christi 37, Texas A&M-Corpus Christi

Baylor 74, Texas A&M 52
Henderson St. 100, Arkansas Baptist 47
Texas 83, Oklahoma 71, O'T
Texas 150, TS, Missouri AT, O'T
Texa

Golf

Hope Classic

Wednesday La Quinta, Calif. PGA West (Palmer Course); 6,930 yards Tamarisk Country Club; 7,003 yards La Quinta Country Club; 7,003 yards bermuda Dunes Country Club; 6,962 yards Par for all four courses; 72 (36-36) First Round

Robert Damron Ted Purdy Duffy Waldorf Duffy Waldorf Joe Ogilvie Fred Funk Franklin Langh Fred Couples Justin Rose 31-33-64 31-33-64 31-33-65 32-33-65 32-33-65 33-32-65 Justin Rose Neal Lancaster Nick Watney Phil Mickelson Justin Leonard Ryuji Imada Peter Jacobsen Joe Durant Rob Rashell Jason Allred 33-32-65 32-33-65 34-32-66 33-33-66 34-32-66 35-31-66 34-32-66 31-35-66 29-37-66 33-34-67 34-33-67 32-35-67 35-32-67 33-34-67 J.L. Lewis Brian Batemar Tim Petrovic Tim Petrowic Bill Haas Peter Lonard Harrison Frazar Hidemichi Tanaka Pat Perez Billy Mayfair 33-34-67 35-32-67 33-34-67 33-34-67 37-30-67 37-30-67 36-31-67

-8-7-7-7 99999 555555

34-34-68 34-34-68 34-34-68 33-35-68 Craig Barlow
Steve Lowery
Jesper Parnevik
Briny Baird
Jeff Sluman
Loren Roberts
Jerry Kelly
Joey Sindelar
Kevin Sutherland 33-35-68 34-34-68 32-36-68 34-34-68 31-37-68 34-34-68 37-31-68 33-35-68 Danny Briggs Olin Browne Tim Herron Brent Geiberger 34-34-68 33-35-68 35-33-68 D.A. Points Kevin Na 33-35-68 33-35-68 35-33-68 33-35-68 Bart Bryant Paul Govdos 33-35-68 33-36-69 33-36-69 35-34-69 Scott Verplank Tommy Armour III David Toms Mark O'Meara 34-35-69 36-33-69 33-36-69 34-35-69 34-35-69 34-35-69 36-33-69 34-35-69 35-34-69 36-33-69 34-35-69 Alex Cejka Bo Van Pelt Chris DiMarco Robert Allenby Jeff Maggert Billy Andrade Stephen Ames Phillip Price John Senden 34-35-69 33-36-69 35-34-69 36-34-70 John Senden Per-Ulrik Johan Dudley Hart Steve Allan J.J. Henry Rich Beem Steve Elkington Corey Pavin 36-34-70 36-34-70 34-36-70 34-36-70 36-34-70 35-35-70 36-34-70 36-34-70 Corey Pavin Jay Haas Bernhard Langer Frank Lickliter II Cameron Beck Chris Smith Davis Love III Tim Clark 36-34-70 37-33-70 36-34-70 37-33-70 Mark Brooks Ian Poulter Michael Allen Carl Pettersson 36-34-70 36-34-70 35-35-70

33-34-67 -5 32-35-67 -5

33-34-67 33-35-68 35-33-68

Robert Gamez Mark Calcavecchia Steve Jones Chric Piles Deals

Todd Fischer Tom Pernice, Jr.

Jim Furyk Craig Stadler

Kenny Perry Stewart Cink

Andrew Magee Fredrik Jacobson

Wednesday's transactions

RASFRALL

34-36-70 37-33-70 35-35-70 35-35-70

DASEDAL:
American League
CLEVELAND INDIANS—Agreed to terms
with OF Darnell McDonald on a minor league
contract. Named Jason Lee Pacific rim SCATTLE MARINERS—Agreed to terms with INF Yuniesky Betancourt on a four-year contract. Designated RHP Aaron Looper for assignment. assignment.

TAMPA BAY DEVIL RAYS—Agreed to terms
with RHP Doug Waechter, LHP Scott Kazmir
and LHP Chris Seddon on one-year contracts.

racts.

National League

NEW YORK METS—Acquired 1B Doug
Mentkiewicz from Boston for 1B Ian Blader-

Recommendation of the second o

FOOTBALL
National Football League
DALLAS COWBOYS—Signed KR Woodrow DETROIT LIONS—Named Ted Tollner offen-sive coordinator

Arena Football League
CHICAGO RUSH—Recalled OL-DL D.J. Bleiath from waivers. COLORADO CRUSH—Re-signed OS Damian Harrell. **COLUMBUS DESTROYERS**—Walved OL-DL Tyronn Johnson. Released WR-LB Sir Mawn Tyronn Johnson. Released Wik-Lis Sir Mawni Wilson.

LAS VEGAS GLAPIATORS—Re-Signed CI-DI. Thaddeus Bullard.

LOS ANGELES AVENGERS—Re-Signed K Remy Hamilton, WR-LB Greg Hopkins, QB John Kaleo and OL-DI. Sean McNamara.

MSHYILLE KATS—Placed FB-LB Casey Urlacher on recallable waivers. NEW ORLEANS VOODOO—Re-signed OL-DL

John Hilliard.

NEW YORK DRAGONS—Claimed FB-LB
Jamaal Cherry off waivers from San Jose.

TAMPA BAY STORM—Re-signed WR-LB
David Saunders. avid Saunders.

SOCCER

Major League Soccer

COLUMBUS CREW—Signed MF-D Duncan
ughton to a multiyear contract.

Oughton to a multipear contract.

OULEGE

NCAA – Placed Lincoln University (Mo.) on probation for four years, limited its football financial aid, recruiting and transfers, and adopted institutional forfeitures of competitions and records in several sports for allowing inelligible student-athletes to participate in football, men's basketball, women's cross country, women's track and field and men's country, women's track and field and men's golf.

FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL—Named Danije la Tomic women's volloyball coach

GUILFORD—Announced the resignation of ohn Burke, men's lacrosse coach. Named Indrew Rowe interim men's lacrosse coach. MCMURRY—Announced the resignation of Steve Keenum, football coach, MINNESOTA STATE—Named Mike Ekeler

efensive coordinator. OLIVET—Reinstated its wrestling program.

STANFORD—Named Tucker Waugh wide receivers coach.

SYRACUSE—Named Jim Salgado cornerbacks and secondary coach.

TANK McNamara

Ohio St. 68, Penn St. 62 Olivet 77, Adrian 71







Wimbledon champion Maria Sharapova of Russia shows frustration during her women's singles semifinal match against Serena Williams in the Australian Open. The American won the match 2-6, 7-5, 8-6.

And in this corner ...

Sharapova, Serena Williams are showing signs of developing into one of tennis' storied rivalries

BY DENNIS PASSA
The Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — It's not in the same league — yet — of Billie Jean vs. Chris, Martina vs. Steffi, or most recently, Serena vs. Venus.

But the recent rivalry in big matches between Serena Williams, 23, and 17-year-old Maria Sharapova has the potential both players agree — to turn into an enduring one.

"I think she is one of the best competitors out there," Sharapova said Thursday after her 2-6, 7-5, 8-6 loss to Williams in an Australian Open semifinal in which Williams saved three match points.

"She's been in those situations when she was down in the third set, and out of nowhere she knows how to turn it around. That comes from experience, that comes from ber fighting spirit."

Williams, who has six career Grand Slam singles titles, won the first match against Sharapova at Miami in 2004. She then lost both big ones — last year's Wimbledon final and in the season-ending WTA Championships.

"I think it definitely lived up to expectations," Williams said of Thursday's match. "I definitely think she has a fighting spirit and I think that's gotten her to where she is today."

She also feels that Sharapova, who moved to Florida from Russia at age 9, considers her a role 44I think she [Serena Williams] is one of the best competitors out

there. She's been

in those situations when she was down in the third set, and out of nowhere

she knows how to turn it around.

> Maria Sharapova Wimbledon champion

"I definitely think she's probably looked at me as a reference growing up, which is exciting," Williams said. "I never thought I'd play someone that probably looked up to me."

The mutual admiration ended there Thursday. Asked what Williams had showed her during the match, Sharapova replied, "Nothing."

And Williams reminded everyone that, although she credited Sharapova with having a fighting spirit, "I'm still top fighter out there." Sharapova could learn from Williams' comeback in the match. Sharapova served for the match at 5-4 in both the second and third sets. She didn't have a match point in the second set, but was a point away from victory three times in the third.

"In the second, I thought, 'OK, I could have won this set already, why am I still out here?" Williams said. "In the third, I thought, 'OK, I've been in this situation before, no problem."

Williams had saved match points and won three previous matches — against Kim Clijsters in the 2003 Australian Open semifinal (in which she beat sister Venus in the final), and twice against Lindsay Davenport, her opponent in Saturday's final.

"Those are always the best wins, when you're down match point, because you realize that you can't give up," she said. Sharapova said she didn't give

up either on Thursday.

"I gave it all I had. I played from my heart," she said. "I didn't take my chances when I could. And that's what this game is all about. The match could have gone any way, and she took her chances and she played well when she needed to. That's the dif-

when she needed to. That's the difference."

The fourth-ranked Sharapova was philosophical about the loss.

"This is not a sprint, it's a marathon," Sharapova said, foreshadowing future big matches against Williams and other top players.

"Of course I'm sad, and obviously it's a tough one to lose. But I've got a long way ahead of me."

Safin dazzles in beating Federer

BY PAUL ALEXANDER
The Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia— Marat Safin ended top-ranked Roger Federer's 26-match winning streak in a classic Australian Open semifinal, outlasting the defending champion 5-7, 6-4, 5-7, 7-6 (8-6), 9-7 in a dazzling 4½-hour match.

Safin, seeded fourth and trying to regain the No. 1 ranking he held briefly after winning the U.S. Open in 2000, saved one match point in overcoming the unusually jittery Federer, who hadn't dropped a set in five previous matches, including a quarterinal domination of Andre Agassi.

Federer received treatment for elbow and back pain in the fifth set, then saved six match points before Safin broke his serve with a forehand into an open court as Federer watched from his knees. Safin, reaching the final at Mel-

saini, reaching the final at Meibourne Park for the third time in four years, next meets the winner of Friday night's semifinal between second-ranked Andy Roddick and No. 3 Lleyton Hewitt.

The women's final matches seventh-seeded Serena Williams against top-ranked Lindsay Davenport. Williams fended off three match points to avenge her Wimbledon final loss to No. 4 Maria Sharapova 2-6, 7-5, 8-6, stretching her Australian Open winning streak to 13 matches.

Davenport looked lethargic after playing more than four hours Wednesday, but rallied to hold off No. 19 Nathalie Dechy of France 2-6, 7-6 (7-5), 6-4.

Safin vs. Federer was pure crowd-pleasing tennis between two of the game's most gifted all-around players. Every point was a struggle as they punished weak shots and swapped stinging groundstrokes and drop volleys.

"It's like a brain fight against ... Roger Federer," Safin said. "I think we played the best we could and I couldn't give any more than that"

Safin was exhausted going into last year's final — which he lost to Federer — after six matches that averaged three hours.

Demonstrating the skills that took him to No. 1 after his only Grand Slam title at Flushing Meadows, he was much fresher this time — and needed to be.

"I'm not playing against just a simple player. He's No. 1 in the world," Safin said. It was his birthday on Thursday, and he planned a quiet celebration with a glass of champagne when he got back to his room in the early hours of Friday morning. "It was one of the toughest

matches of my life. I need time to recover," he said. "Five sets is a kind of lottery. Anything can hap-

While serving at 5-6, he mis-hit a forehand, then sent a backhand long to give Federer the first set. Frustrated, the mercurial Russian tossed his racket high in the air and missed the catch

Federer then lost his first set of the tournament, showing the first real signs of tension in 11 days. Serving at 1-1 in the second set, he smacked an overhead wide, then hit a backhand into the net for the only service break. Safin held serve the rest of the way.

Usually unflappable, Federer committed an uncharacteristic 14 errors in the set to just five for Safin. Clearly frustrated, Federer shouted at himself after missing opportunities and charged the net more frequently than usual.

As in the first set, Federer broke serve with Safin serving at 5-6 in the fourth. Safin smashed his second racket of the tournament after one error, and sent a forehand way long. The last time they met in a tiebreaker, Federer prevailed 20-18 in the Masters Cup. This time, Safin trailed 5-2 before running off the next three points. Federer made a stunning drop shot from the baseline to serve for the match at 6-5. Safin then won the next three points to force a deciding fifth set.

Federer called in trainer Paul Ness, who massaged his right forearm and elbow. Three games later, Ness returned to stretch out Federer's back as he lay on the court.

Federer said he felt some pain

in his right arm, from the shoulder to his fingers.

"It's not an injury — it's just

"It's not an injury — it's just something that was bothering me." he said.

Safin took a 4-2 lead in the deciding set as Federer committed his seventh double fault on break point. Federer got back on serve by saving two match points as Safin served 5-3, then held to get back on serve. Federer fended off another match point in the next game, another two while serving at 6-7 and a sixth at 7-8 before Safin finished it.

Davenport is healthy after a bout of bronchitis just before the



tournament, which she won in 2000 for her last Grand Slam title. But she was tight after a 2½-hour quarterfinal victory Friday that was followed by more than 1½ hours in doubles.

It showed. She finished with 48 winners and 52 enforced errors — but only 11 in the final set as she finally loosened up.

"It's been a long two days. I woke up this morning, I just felt pretty tight all over," Davenport said. "It wasn't my greatest day plaving tennis — but I'll take it."

Pistons end skid by routing Denver

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. - As ugly as it was, the Detroit Pistons won a game they desperately needed

Ben Wallace had 14 points and 12 rebounds and reserve Antonio McDyess scored 13 to help Detroit end a season-high four-game losing streak with an 87-70 victory over the Denver Nuggets on Wednesday night.

"This was important," said Chauncey Billups, who tied a season high with 10 assists. "We needed to end this slide and get the bad



taste out of our mouths." The Nug-gets dropped

their third straight and are 4-10 since hiring interim coach Michael Cooper, who might soon be replaced by George Karl. "I'm not worried about my sta-

tus." Cooper said. "I knew this was an interim job when I got it. I just want to make sure our team stays focused. It is distracting for the guys, but they need to let management worry about the coach and focus on playing.

Marcus Camby said the topic is a bigger deal with the media than the Nuggets.

"I don't think it's affecting the team," Camby said. "I like the coach we have now '

The Pistons trailed only once. the opening minutes, McDvess helped them put Denver away with eight straight points from late in the third quarter to early in the fourth.

Nuggets star Carmelo Anthony scored a season-low five points on 2-for-13 shooting. Denver reserve Earl Boykins

scored 14 points, and Andre Miller and Camby each scored 10. Camby, who also had 14 rebounds, returned to the lineup after missing a game with a sprained left ankle.

Carlos Arroyo scored 12 off the bench for the Pistons, Rasheed Wallace had 11 points and 11 reand Tayshaun Prince scored 12. Richard Hamilton, who missed the previous game with a bruised right thigh, had 10 points. It looked like a matchup of struggling teams for much of the night Wide-onen shots clanged off rims passes went through hands and effort was often lacking.

"It was an ugly ballgame," Camby said.

Heat 111, Raptors 96: At Toronto, Shaquille O'Neal had 33 points and 18 rebounds, and Eddie Jones added 23 points.

Jones went 8-for-11 from the field for the Heat, who have won just six of their last 12. Dwyane Wade had 16 points and 10 assists despite playing with a sore left knee and ankle

Wizards 117, 76ers 107: At Washington, Gilbert Arenas scored 33 points as the Wizards won their fourth straight.

Juan Divon scored 14 of his 22 points in the fourth quarter as the



Detroit Pistons' Ben Wallace (3) drives on Denver Nuggets' Francisco Elson in the second quarter on Wednesday night.

Wizards closed with a 20-9 run to win their eighth straight at home and 11th of 13 since New Year's

Suns 121. Rucks 115: Shawn Marion scored 24 points, including 17 in the first half, Amare Stoudemire had 23, Steve Nash 21. Quentin Richardson 18 and Joe Johnson 17.

Visiting Phoenix missed four free throws in the final minute, which allowed Milwaukee to cut an eight-point deficit to 117-115 But Nash sank two free throws with 12.5 seconds left and Richardson did the same with 5.8 seconds left

Timberwolves 104, Hawks 87: At Minneapolis, Latrell Sprewell scored a season-high 32 points, including 22 in the third quarter, in the Timberwolves' fourth straight win. Wally Szczerbiak added 18 points and Fred Hoiberg scored 12. Minnesota was without coach Flip Saunders. who stayed home with the flu.

Rockets 82. Homets 77: Tracy McGrady scored 10 of his 33 points to help visiting Houston overcome a 10-point fourth-quarter deficit, and Scott Padgett's late three-pointer put the Rockets ahead for good.

Jazz 109, SuperSonics 100: At Salt Lake City, Raul Lopez had a career-high 11 assists and matched his best scoring total with 20 points, and Andrei Kir-ilenko had 12 points and five blocks in his third game back since a knee injury.

Mavericks 95, Trail Blazers 88: At Portland, Dirk Nowitzki had 24 points and 15 rebounds his sixth double-double in the last eight games - as Dallas won for the 11th time in 14 games.

Nets 113, Warriors 99: Brian Scalabrine had a career-high 29 points and 10 rebounds in a rare start, and Vince Carter had 17 points and nine assists in the visiting Nets' highest-scoring game of the season.

NBA scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division								
	w	L	Pct	GB				
Boston	20	22	.476	-				
Philadelphia			.463					
Foronto	18	25	.419	21/2				
New York	17	24	.415	21/2				
New Jersev			.381	4				
Southeast	Divis	ion						
Miami	31	13	.705	-				
Washington	26	15	.634	31/2				
Orlando	22	19	.537	71/2				
Charlotte	8	30	.211	20				
Atlanta		32	.200	21				
Central I	Divisio	n						
Cleveland	25	16	.610	-				
Detroit	24	18	.571	11/2				
Chicago	21	19	.525					
ndiana	20	20	.500	41/2				
Milwaukee	15	25	.375	91/2				
Western Conference								
western conterence								

Western Co	nfe	rei	ıce		F			
Southwest Division								
	W	L	Pct	GB				
San Antonio	34	10	.773	-				
Dallas		13	.683	41/2				
Houston	24			91/2	n			
Memphis	24	20		10	li			
New Orleans	7	34	.171	251/2	4			
Northwest	Divis				- 4			
	W	L	Pct	GB	- 0			
Seattle	29	12	.707					
Minnesota		19		61/2	f			
Denver	17	25	.405	121/2	5			
Portland		25		13	9			
Utah		28	.349	15	5000			
Pacific Di					-			
	w	L	Pct	GB				
Phoenix Sacramento	34	10	.773 .700	4				
L.A. Lakers L.A. Clippers	22	18 22		10 13	ň			
Golden State			.476	21	ž			
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Miami 111. Toronto 96					t			
Cleveland 114, Memph					s			
Washington 117, Phila					t			
Washington 117, Phila	ueip	ma .	107		2			

Detroit 87, Denver 70 Phoenix 121, Milwaukee 115 Minnesota 104, Atlanta 87 Houston 82, New Orleans 77 Utah 109, Seattle 100

Dallas 95, Portland 88 New Jersey 113, Golden State 99 L.A. Clippers 105, L.A. Lakers 89 Thursday's games

Thursday's ga Detroit at Indiana Charlotte at Chicago Sacramento at San Anton Friday's gan Toronto at Charlotte

Washington at Orlando Cleveland at New York Phoenix at Boston Miami at Atlanta Utah at Minnesota Philadelphia at New Orleans Denver at Milwaukee Sacramento at Houston L.A. Clippers at Portland New Jersey at L.A. Lakers Seattle at Golden State

Saturday's games
Orlando at Washington Saturday's game
Orlando at Washington
New York at Detroit
Atlanta at Memphis
Denver at Indiana
Boston at Chicago
New Orleans at San Antonio
Philadelphia at Dallas
New Jersey at Utah
Golden State at L.A. Clippers

Celtics 100, Pacers 86

Cettics 100, Paccers 86

MINIMA - JACKOR 1-83-917, O'Neal 7-19

19-19 A. Froster 2-8-2-95, potention 7-42-4-5

19-19 A. Froster 2-8-2-95, potention 7-42-4-5

19-10 A. Froster 2-8-2-95, potention 7-8-4-4-6

19-10 A. Froster 2-8-2-95, potention 7-8-4-4-6

19-10 A. Froster 2-8-2-95, potention 7-8-2-95, poten

Heat 111, Raptors 96

MIAMI — E.Jones 8-11 6-7 23, Haslem 3-4 11, O'Neal 13-19 7-20 33, D.Jones 3-7 0-Wade 3-7 10-14 16, Butler 5-11 3-4 14, Dol 13-0-0 2, Dooling 15-0-0 2, Anderson 1-3 2. Totals 39-73 29-49 111. rson 1-3 0-0

2. Totals 39-73 29-49 11. TOTANTO — E.Williams 0-1 2-2 2, Bosh 8-19 11-13 27, Araujo 1-1 0-0 2, Peterson 4-14 1-3 9, Alston 9-17 8-12 29, Marshall 0-2 0-0 0, Rose 4-11 3-413, Bonner 1-4 1-3, Palacio 1-2 1-1 3, Murray 1-4 3-4 5, LWoods 0-1-2 1, Aa.Williams 1-3 0-0 2. Totals 30-7 31-4 5 46.

32 29 27 23-111 26 20 26 24- 96 Miami Toronto Toronto 25 20 26 24 – 96 Three-Point Goals-Miami 4-11 (D.Jones 2-4, E.Jones 1-2, Butler 1-3, Anderson 0-1, Dooling 0-1), Toronto 5-2 (Alston 3-6, Rose 2-6, Bonner 0-1, Murray 0-2, Marshall 0-2, Peterson 0-9, Fouled Out-Haslem, Wade, Point 0-1, Found 0-1, Murray 0-1, Marshall 0-2, Peterson 0-9, Sasists-Miami 24 (Wade 10), Toronto 14 (Alston 8), Total Fouls-Miami 31, Toronto 32, Technicals-Miami Defensive Three Second 2. A – 19,800 (19,800).

Cavaliers 114. Grizzlies 111

MEMPHIS — Battler 2-8 5-6 10, Swift 5-9 0-0 10, Wright 1-4 2-2 4, J.Williams 7-12 5-5 20, Jones 2-4 0-0 4, Tsakalldis 3-3 0-0 6, Miller 11-16 1-1 28, Cardinal 3-7 7-8 14, Watson 1-4 0-0 2, Wells 3-53-3 11, Humphrey 1-2 0-2 2. To-tals 30-7.4 2-7.7 111

tals 39-74 23-27 111.

CLEVELAND — James 10-16 3-4 27, Gooden
11-18 5-9 27, Ilgauskas 7-14 8-11 22, McInnis
5-9 1-1 12, Newble 2-5 0-0 4, Harris 1-4 0-0 2,
Snow 3-6 0-0 7, Traylor 0-1 4-4 4, Pavlovic 4-6
0-0 9. Totals 43-79 21-29 114.

Cleveland 30 33 25 26-114
Three-Point Goals-Memphis 10-21 (Miller 5-8, Wells 2-3, Cardinal 1-2, J.Williams 1-3, Battier 1-4, Watson 0-1), Cleveland 7-11 (James 4-6, McInnis 1-1, Snow 1-1, Pavlovic 1-2, Harris 9-11, Fouled Out-Anone, Rebound-S-Memphis 36 (Cardinal 7), Cleveland 47 (Gooded 11), Assists -Memphis 25, J.Williams 1-2, Cleveland 21, A-17,057, Colored 1-2, Cleveland 21, A-17,057, Colored 20, Scott 1-2, Cleveland 21, A-17,057, Colored 20, Scott 1-2, Cleveland 21, A-17,057, Colored 21, A-17,057

Wizards 117, 76ers 107

PHILADELPHIA — Korver 4-5 3-3 15, K.Tho-mas 7-13 3-4 17, Dalembert 1-6 3-5 5, Iguoda. la 3-9 3-4 9, Green 10-21 10-13 32, McKie 1-1 0-0 2, Williamson 3-7 3-4 9, Ke.Brown 1-1 2-2 4, Jackson 1-2 0-1 2, Salmons 4-5 2-2 12, Davis 9-0 0-0 0, Totals 35-70 29-38 107.

u-u-u-0. Totals 35-70 29-38 107. **WASHNETON** – Jamison 10-17 2-3 23, Jef-fries 4-6 2-2 11, Haywood 1-3 0-2 2, Hayes 5-15 1-1 12, Arenas 11-26 7-8 33, Dixon 6-13 89 22, EThomas 1-4 2-2 4, Ruffin 2-2 3-6 7, Blake 1-1 0-0 3, Peeler 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 41-89 25-33 117.

Blass 11 6 0 3. Peter to Cut via counts - Shall be shall

Pistons 87. Nuggets 70

Pistons 87, Nuggets 70

DBWRF - Anthony 213 1-15, Martin 1-4, Mart

Suns 121, Bucks 115

PHOENIX - Marion 10-24, 2-24, Richardson 4-11, 79-18, Studenire 9-14, 5-0 23, 5-0 23, 5-0 23, 5-0 24, 5-0 23, 5-0 24, 5-0 23, 5-0 24,

22-25 115.
Phoenix 30 31 32 28-121.
Milwauker 60als-Phoenix 31 26 23 31 26 28 31 26

Rockets 82. Hornets 77

HOUSTON — McGrady 13-27-4-6-33, Howard 0-2-2-2, Ming 6-13-0-2-12, Sura 1-8-3-4-5, Wes-ley 2-8-1-1, 6, Mutombo 2-2-2-2-6, Strickland 1-4-2-2-5, Barry 1-6-4-4, 6, Padgett 3-6-0-0-7, Bowen 0-0-0-0. Totals 29-76-18-23-82. Bowen 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 29-76 18-23 82. NEW ORLEANS — Nalion 8-21 1-1 17, Rogers 2-5 0-0 4, Brown 7-14 3-3 17, Dickau 9-16 2-2 23, Smith 2-5 0-2 6, Jacobsen 2-3 1-3 5, Anders-en 2-7 1-2 5, Nachbar 0-3 0-0 0. Totals 37-8 8-13 77.

Houston New Orleans New Orleans The 23 24 14-77 Three-Point Goals—Houston 6-23 (McGrady 3-10, Strickland 1-1, Wesley 1-3, Padgett 1-3, Sura 0-2, Barry 0-4), New Or-leans 5-12 (Dickau 3-7, Smith 2-3, Rogers 0-2), Fouled Out—None, Rebounds—Houston 0-2). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Houston 51 (Ming 13), New Orleans 48 (Brown 10). As-sists—Houston 18 (McGrady 5), New Orleans 21 (Dickau 10). Total Fouls—Houston 13, New Orleans 22. Technicals—Houston Defensive Three Second, Strickland, Rogers, Smith.

Timberwolves 104, Hawks 87

ATLANTA — Harrington 7-17 3-4 17, Walker 7-18 1-3 15, Collier 3-4 0-0 6, J.Smith 2-6 4-5 8, Lue 5-12 3-3 13, Drobnjak 3-7 0-0 7, Anderson 1-3 1-2 3, Childress 2-4 2-2 6, Delk 4-8 1-2 12, Ekezie 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 34-80 15-21 87.

MINNESOTA — Sprewell 12-18 3-3 32, Gar-nett 8-9 1-1 17, Johnson 1-1 0-0 2, Hassell 2-6 0-0 4, Carter 2-6 0-0 4, Griffin 3-7 1-2 8, Hud-son 1-5-0-0 2, Szczerbiak 9-15-0-1 18, Holberg 4-6 2-3 13, Cassell 2-5 0-0 4, Thomas 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 44-79 7-10 104.

26 21 17 23- 87 Atlanta Minnesota Minnesota
Three-Point Goals—Atlanta 4-11 Delta 3-6.
Drobnjak 1-1, Lue 9-1, Harrington 9-2, Walker
Drobnjak 1-1, Lue 9-1, Harrington 9-2, Walker
Drobnjak 1-1, Lue 9-1, Harrington 9-2, Walker
9-1, Sczezphiak 0-2, Hudson 0-2), Fouled Olt4-6, Griffin 1-3, Gossell 0-1, Hassell 0-1, Carter
0-1, Sczezphiak 0-2, Hudson 0-2), Fouled Olt1-2), Minnesota 4-6 (Gamett 10, Assistes—Atlanta 19 (Anderson, Walker, Lue 5), Minnesota
1-2, Minnesota 4-6, Gramett 10, Assistes—Atlanta 19 (Anderson, Walker, Lue 5), Minnesota
1-2, Minnesota 1-2,

Jazz 109, SuperSonics 100

SEATTLE — Lewis 4-15 4-4 15, Evans 0-2 0-0, James 0-0 0-0, Ridmour 6-14 4-5 17, Allen 10-22 3-5 27, Radmanovic 0-8 0-0, Daniels 0-10-23 3-5 27, Radmanovic 0-8 0-0, Daniels 0-10-23 5-27, Radmanovic 0-10-24 0 12. Totals 38-76 27-31 109. 18 33 26 23-100 22 25 32 30-109 Seattle Utah

Utah 72 25 32 30 – 109 Three-Point Goals—Seattle ID-29 (Allen 4-9, Lewis 3-7, Daniels 2-4, Ridnour 1-5, Radmanovic 0-4), Utah 6-13 (Gircek 2-2, Lope 2-4, Bell 2-5, Kirlienko 0-1, Okur 0-1), Fouled Out–Mone, Rebounds—Seattle 42 (Collison 8), Utah 48 (Boozer, Okur 7), Assists—Seattle 13 (Ridnour 4), Utah 26 (Lopez 11), Total Fouls—Seattle 29, Utah 27, A—18,821 (19911).

Mavericks 95, Trail Blazers 88

DALLAS — Stackhouse 8-16 4-4 20, Nowitz-ki 9-20 6-7 24, Dampier 1-3 1-2 3, Finley 9-22 0-0 22, Terry 2-6 2-2 8, Armstrong 2-6 0-0 6, Bradley 0-12-22, Dev.Harris 1-1 0-0 2, Hender-son 4-5 0-0 8, Totals 36-80 15-17 95.

Son 4-5 0-0 8. 10tals 36-80 15-17 95. PORTLAND — Patterson 4-6 1-29, Ratliff 3-7 0-2 6, Przybilla 4-7 2-7 10, Stoudamire 8-23 2-2 22, Van Exel 2-9 0-1 5, Miles 5-13 5-8 15, Ran-dolph 7-15 5-7 19. Telfair 0-1 0-0. Frahm 1-3 0-0 2, Totals 34-84 15-29 88.

0-02. Totals 34-81.5-288.

Dallas 22. 32. 18. 23.—95
Portland 5. 24. 12. 17.—88
Portland 5. 16. (Stoudamire 4-9.
Portland 5. 16. (Stoudamire 4-9.
Portland 5. 16. (Stoudamire 4-9.
Portland 5. 17. (Stoudamire 4-9.
Portland 12. 12. (Stoudamire, Portland 22. (Stoudamire, Miles 6). Total Fousi-Dallas 12. Portland 12. (Stoudamire, Miles 6). Total Fousi-Dallas 12. Portland 12. (Stoudamire, Miles 6). Total Fousi-Dallas 12. Portland 12. (Stoudamire, Miles 6). Total Fousi-Dallas 12. (Stoudamire, Miles 6). Act 12. (St

Nets 113, Warriors 99

NEW JERSEY — Scalabrine 12-17 5-5 29, Bu-ford 8-13 0-0 20, Krstic 4-13 5-8 13, Carter 7-17 3-4 17, Kidd 7-12 0-0 17, Smith 1-2 1-2 3, Vaughn 1-4 0-0 2, Thomas 5-6 0-0 12. Totals 45-84 14-19 113.

45-84 14-19 113. **GOLDEN STATE** — Murphy 7-10 5-7 21, Dun-leavy 4-9 4-6 13, Foyle 1-3 0-0 2, Richardson 12-25 3-4 31, Fisher 2-14 0-0 5, Pietrus 5-9 3-5 13, Najera 3-6 2-2 8, Cheaney 0-1 1-2 1, D.Davis 1-3 0-0 2, Flores 1-2 0-0 3. Totals 36-82 New Jersey 28 27 28 30—113 Golden State

Golden State
Three-Point Goals—New Jersey, 9-16 (Blue Golden State)
Three-Point Goals—New Jersey, 9-16 (Blue Golden State)
Ford 4-5, Mod 3-6, Thomas 2-3, Carter P. J. Scate
4-8, Murphy 2-2, Dunleavy 1-1, Floris 1-1,
Fisher 1-7, Pietrus 0-1), Fouled Out-Kristic,
Fisher 1-7, Pietrus 0-1), Fouled Out-Kristic
Fisher 1-7, Pietrus 0-1), Fouled Out-Kristic
Fisher 1-7, Pietrus 0-1), Fouled Out-Kristic
Fisher 1-8, Found 1-8

Clippers 105, Lakers 89

LA. LAKERS – Jones 4-6 0-0 11, Odom 3-10 2-2 8, Mihm 2-7 0-0 4, Butler 5-13 6-7 16, At-kins 6-16 4-4 17, Vujacic 1-5 0-0 3, Cook 6-10 0-0 14, Grant 0-0 2-2 2, Medvedenko 4-4 1-3 9, Brown 0-4 0-0 0, Bobbitt 2-4 0-0 5. Totals 3-720 15-18 6-7

33-79 15-18 89.
Brand 10-22 8-13 28, Kaman 6-14 2-4 14, Ross
3-8 2-3 8, Brunson 3-10 0-0 6, Maggette 7-14
4-5 20, Jaric 1-5 2-2 4, Moore 1-4 2-4 4. Totals
39-87 24-35 105.

3987 24-35 105.

LA. Lakers 17 26 15 30 – 89

LA. Clippers 26 22 22 35-105

Three-point colast—LA. Clippers 16 10-105

Three-point colast—LA. Clippers 16 10-105

1-5, Odom 0-1, Butler 0-2), LA. Clippers 18-15

LA. Lakers 17 (Atlan 4), LA. Clippers 34-6

46 (Jones 7), LA. Clippers 26 (Kaman 16), As
46 (Jones 7), LA. Clippers 27 (Kaman 16), As
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NBA calendar

Feb. 18-20 – All-Star weekend, Denver. Feb. 24 – Trading deadline, 3 p.m. EST. April 20 – Regular season ends. April 23 – Playoffs begin. June 7-10 – NBA predraft camp, Chicago. June 9 – Earliest possible NBA Finals start

June 21 — Early entry draft withdrawal

ne 23 — Latest possible NBA Finals end

June 28 — NRA draft. New York.

Limping LeBron lifts Cavaliers to victory

BY TOM WITHERS

CLEVELAND — The legend of LeBron James has a new chapter — complete with

a twist.

Shaking off a sprained left ankle, James returned for the final minutes of the fourth quarter to lead the Cleveland Cavaliers to a 114-111 victory Wednesday night over the Memohis Grizzlies.

James finished with 27 points, a career-high 15 assists and nine rebounds, blocking out the pain over the closing 4:53 to make several big plays as the Cavaliers held off the short-handed Grizzlies.

"I had to lead my team," James said.
"My 80 percent can help us win. I can't be scared. I've got to be a soldier out there."
James' injury appears to be serious enough that he may miss a few games.

"I know when I wake up in the morning it will be on fire," said James, already playing with a broken cheekbone. "I won't be able to walk. I'll get as much treatment as I can and just try to prepare myself to play. If I'm not able to play, I'm sure my teammates will step up."

James expects to have more tests Thurs-

When James came down on Dahntay Jones' foot and rolled his ankle with 9:33 left, more than 17,000 fans in Gund Arena went eerily silent and Cavaliers coach Paul Silas feared the worst.

"You kind of see your life flash before



The Cleveland Cavaliers' LeBron James (23) is helped off the court by DeSagana Diop, left, and Scott Williams after injuring his left ankle in the fourth quarter against Memphis.

your eyes," Silas said. "I saw a whole bunch of losses coming up."

Instead, the determined James, who had to be helped off the floor by teammates, came back and made sure the first-place Cavaliers didn't blow a lead while improving to an Eastern Conference-best 15-4 at home and 25-16 overall.

It looked as though James' night was over with the Cavaliers up 95-85. After falling to the floor, play continued for another 10 seconds while James rolled around, pounding his hand on the court before slinging his protective face mask and headband away in disgust.

As he was helped off, James complained to officials that he had been undercut by Jones, who had earlier dunked over him on a breakaway and talked trash to Cleveland's star "I had nowhere to land," said James, who didn't think Jones did it intentionally. Jones wanted to make sure that James

Jones wanted to make sure that James was OK and visited him following the game. The pair shook hands and spoke briefly while James iced his sore ankle near his corner locker.

"Me and him are friends before anything," Jones said.

James, who coincidentally sprained his other ankle in Cleveland's 41st game a year ago, said he didn't think the ankle was badly hurt when he first went down. By the time he left the floor, James said it felt well enough to try and walk some.

"I got to the locker room, we retaped it and I was ready to go," he said. "I wasn't 100 percent, but I was able to finish the

Drew Gooden scored 27 points — six during the 4½ minutes when James was out — and had 11 rebounds and Zydrunas Ilgauskas added 22 points for the Cavaliers.

The Grizzlies, playing without injured center Pau Gasol and forward James Posey, were led by Mike Miller's season-high 28 points.

"We came in here kind of short-handed, and they were, too, so it's not an excuse," Miller said. "They executed better down the stretch. He [James] came back in and made some plays."

The Cavaliers, who were missing super-sub Anderson Varejao, lost starter Ira Newble in the first quarter with an Achilles' injury.

Clippers finally figure out rival Lakers

BY JOHN NADEL
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The Los Angeles Lakers and Los Angeles Clippers haven't had much of a rivalry over the years, because the Lakers have always been the better team

It was the Clippers who dominated Wednesday night.

Elton Brand had 28 points and 14 rebounds, Bobby Simmons added 21 points, and the Clippers led nearly all the way in a 105-89 victory.

The Lakers had beaten the Clippers five straight times, including twice this season, and in 28 of the last 31 games. The Clippers have won only 20 of 98 games against the Lakers since moving from San Diego to Los Angeles before the 1984-85 season.

The teams now seem more evenly matched than ever. "I hope so, man. After a while, you get tired of hearing about the Lakers," second-year Clippers center Chris Kaman said.

Kaman had 14 points and career-high totals of 16 rebounds and five blocked shots in teaming with Brand to dominate the inside.

with Brand to dominate the inside.

The Clippers outrebounded the
Lakers 51-39.

"We just got manhandled on the boards again," said Lakers coach Rudy Tomjanovich, whose team was outrebounded 48-36 by Seattle on Tuesday night.

"I think they were really ready for us because we had won the previous two games," Tomjanovich said. "They came out after us and took it to us. It was a pounding, and I'm not really happy with our response. Sometimes you've got to take your lumps."

Corey Maggette, who leads the Clippers with a 21.5-point average, returned after missing two

games because of a sore left foot and scored 16 of his 20 points in the fourth quarter. Maggette, who attended Duke,

compared playing the Lakers to a Duke-North Carolina game. "It's a rivalry game. We play in

the same arena," he said.

The win was the second straight for the Clippers (20-22)

straight for the Clippers (20-22) following a season-high five-game losing streak.

"Our guys have played well.

"Our guys have played well, even through the losing streak," Clippers coach Mike Dunleav, said. "We're hopeful. We're trying to make a push for the playoffs."

Chucky Atkins led the Lakers with 17 points. Caron Butler added 16 points, Brian Cook scored 14 and Jumaine Jones had 11 points and seven rebounds.

The Lakers (22-18) have lost two straight games and are 3-3 since Kobe Bryant, the league's No. 2 scorer, severely sprained his right ankle Jan. 13.

Mediocre Celtics take Atlantic lead

BY JIMMY GOLEN The Associated Press

BOSTON — Strike up the bland: The Boston Celtics are all alone in first place in the NRA's

Atlantic Division.
"If you win two in a row, you're automatically in first place in the Atlantic Division. It's in the agreement, you know," coach Doc Rivers said Wednesday night after the Celtics beat the Indiana Pacers 100-86. "Hell, you lose two in a row and you can be in first place

in the Atlantic Division."
The Celtics are leading the division at two games below .500,
passing Philadelphia after the
76ers lost 117-107 to the Washington Wizards. The Celtics
hadn't been in first this late in
the season since Larry Bird was
playing.

That was at the end of the 1990-91 season, and the Celtics were 56-26. These Celtics are 20-22.

"It's good to be on top of the division, which puts us in the No. 3 seed" for the playoffs, said Paul Pierce, who scored 23. "But even though we're in first place, we're not playing like a first-place team."

Raef LaFrentz had 12 points with 11 rebounds, Gary Payton had 10 points with nine assists and Ricky Davis scored 18 as a reserve to spoil Stephen Jackson's return from a 30-game brawl suspension.

Jackson scored 17 points in 38 minutes in his first game back since the Nov. 19 melee against

Detroit, when Ron Artest went into the stands seeking a fan who threw a cup at him. Jackson followed Artest into the crowd and took several swings at fans.

took several swings at fans.

Jermaine O'Neal scored 25 for the Pacers.

Jackson hit the Pacers' first basket of the night — a three-pointer in the first two minutes — and scored eight points in the first quarter. But he went 0-for-6 from three-point range in the next three quarters and scored just six points in the second half.

"I felt like a kid. I'm back and I'm happy to be back," he said. "I was pumped, excited to be out there. But as the game went on, my shots fell shorter and shorter from the rim. You have to be out there to get in shape."

to be out there to get in shape."
Boston won its fourth consecutive home game a night after snapping a nine-game road losing streak. The Celtics had lost seven consecutive games to the Pacers, including a four-game sweep in the first round of last year's playoffs.

"At times, you have to be a 'not tonight' team," Rivers said.
"You say, 'If you're better than us or not, you're not going to

The Celtics went on 12-2 run at the end of the third quarter and the beginning of the fourth, taking an 32-68 lead on Jiri Welsch's three-pointer with 9:56 to play. The Pacers called a timeout and came back to score 13 of the next 15 points, making it 84-81 on Austin Croshere's second three-pointer of the run with 6:20 left.



T.O.'s ankle gives media something to run with

et's just hand the Super Bowl MVP award to Terrell Owens right now Even if he doesn't play a single down for the Philadelphia Eagles in the big game, he will deserve it. Even if the New England Patriots win, Owens should be the one

Remember, the media vote on these things, and his attempt to become the latest Curt Schilling, Willis Reed or Kirk Gibson creates a much-needed topic for discussion. The industry has hours of video and vards of paper to fill and the status of Owens' busted ankle is real drama, if not

Will he play or won't he The coach says bet on it.

The doctor says no The coach backs down.

The trainer says maybe Owens says he'll be there, because he has been healed spiritually.

Owens jogs at practice. Trainer says "our risk-reward is different than (the doctor's) risk-reward.'

The story has already been inflated to the point of bursting. By next week, football fans everywhere will recognize the Eagles trainer as a member of the family, a fixture in their living rooms. The coverage will be incessant, every day, every hour - even it it means nothing more than repeatedly replaying Wednesday's news conference

Gwen Knapp



There will be no timeout on T.O.
But if he has spared

reporters a trip to see the long snapper's second cousin who whittles Popsicle sticks into images of Paul Tagliabue. we will all be grateful. The two weeks between the conference champi-

onships and the Super Rowl require some kind of distraction, regardless of what the coaches like to say. And for the Eagles, the distraction may be even

more valuable than a healthy Owens They are playing a team that will be in its third Super Bowl in four years. For the Patriots, professional detachment from the hype of the game is possible. They're unlikely to be overwhelmed by the reality of it. But if the Eagles try to treat the Super Bowl like any other game, they will be deluding themselves. The tension needs to be broken, and the T.O. debate could be just the right hammer.

Several of the Eagles have already made it clear that they do not appreciate the suggestions that they need Owens to win. They are still being judged by their performance in last year's NFC title game, in which their receivers were knocked around by

Carolina's defensive backs. But the team overall is much better this year, because of the addition of Jevon Kearse on the defensive line the good health of multi-di-

ning back Brian Westhmok Owens added a

mensional



deep threat to the offense, but he has also been given credit for upping the swagger factor in the locker room. In a weird way, his absence may have done just as much for the team's confidence. The Eagles won two playoff games without him, including Sunday's dismantling of Atlanta, which committed just one turnover and still couldn't stay with the Eagles.

In Jacksonville, they will be feeding off use aumete's tavorite energy source — per-ceived disrespect. If they take the field the athlete's favorite energy source without T.O., after hearing and reading about him all week, they won't miss him nearly as much as most pundits believe. (The loss of tight end Chad Lewis is a more urgent problem.) If Owens does come out, they will get an

emotional lift, but the real issue will be

whether he is healthy enough to play at or close to his peak. If not, will Andy Reid have the courage to keep him on the sideline, or use him sporadically as a decoy?

That's what we get to ponder for the next 10 days, and the Patriots will surely appreciate it. The hot air in advance of the game will blow more toward the Eagles, giving the Pats room to breathe. They get to continue being Patriots, the reigning champions, excellent in all the little ways that media day doesn't begin to explain.

With two weeks between the Super Bowl and the conference championship games, T.O. can't really be like other gimpy would-be champs. The game before Schilling's Game 6 victory in the ALCS, the Boston Red Sox and New York Yankees played for 5 hours, 49 minutes. The game before that, they played for 5 hours, 2 minutes. Reporters and fans barely had time to catch their breath before Schilling took the mound on an ankle leaking blood.

For the Super Bowl, there is too much time, not enough information, and barely any action. An investigative reporter might try to catch one of the coaches in a smile. but it won't make much of a story. No one likes a scoreless tie. So it's T.O. to the rescue, possibly for the Eagles, definitely for

Gwen Knapp is a columnist for the San Francisco

Cowher's vow: 'This group will get back up'

BY ALAN ROBINSON The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH -- Pittsburgh Steelers coach Bill Cowher isn't ready to forget about 16 victories just because of another bad playoff loss.

On Wednesday, the defiant Cowher said the Steelers' 41-27 loss to New England on Sunday will be a springboard to more successes, not a stopping point for a franchise that lost its fourth AFC championshin game at home in 11 seasons

Cowher, no doubt aware his team is being dismissed again for its inability to win a big game, said these Steelers set a high standard for his future teams with their unselfishness and ability to overcome adversity.

"Please do not allow the one game to define this season," Cowher said. "To finish 16-2, 15-1 in the regular season, and win 15 straight games is quite an achievement. The Steelers manhandled Super Bowl finalists

New England and Philadelphia on consecutive weekends during the season, but became only the second NFL team to go 15-1 and not reach the Super Bowl, joining the 1998 Minnesota Vikings.

The one-sided loss in the rematch against New England on Sunday resulted in an emotional team meeting Monday and caused at least one player, wide receiver Hines Ward, to break into tears.

"It was a very close football team, which made the hurt that much more," Cowher said. "I have always said I believe the measure of any one person or group of people should not be how many times you get knocked down, it should be how many times you

get back up.
"This group will get back up. This is not the end. In my mind, it is the beginning.

Cowher did not address the repeated failure in conference championship games or strategic points of Sunday's loss, including his much-criticized decision to kick a field goal early in the fourth quarter with the Steelers in position to close within 34-27

That move visibly deflated the largest home crowd in Steelers history and, with Pittsburgh's momentum suddenly halted, the Patriots scored the next 10 points



Bill Cowher said, "I have always said I believe the measure of any one person or group of people should not be how many times you get knocked down, it should be how many times you get

"Life is full of disappointments," Cowher said Sometimes we wonder why. But ours is not to wonder why, ours is to continue to try. We will do that. The Steelers' roster is bound to change, with line

backer Kendrell Bell and wide receiver Plaxico Burress among those likely to leave as free agents. Running back Jerome Bettis hasn't decided if he will return for a 13th NFL season.

But Cowher expects his assistant coaches to return — a change from a year ago, when offensive coordinator Mike Mularkey left to become Buffalo's head coach and defensive coordinator, and Tim Lewis was fired. Cowher also said Ben Roethlisberger did not

break two toes on his right foot, as the rookie said Tuesday. The quarterback might have mildly aggravated a toe injury that occurred in high school or college but does not need treatment. Cowher said

The Steelers' ability to overcome numerous injuries by having backups step in and play like starters caused Cowher to re-evaluate his previous policy that a starter shouldn't lose his job to injury. Maddox, Bell, running back Duce Staley and cornerback Chad Scott were among those who didn't return to the lineup after becoming healthy.

"I understand somebody getting frustrated by it or upset by it but, at the same time, (if) somebody comes in playing well and you're playing well as a team, I don't think you disrupt that," Cowher said.

Despite the Steelers' numerous injuries, only backup tight end Matt Cushing (wrist) and running back Verron Haynes (knee) needed offseason surgery.

Cowher, like Roethlisberger and offensive coordinator Ken Whisenhunt, also wants Burress back, though it seems likely he will sign elsewhere. Burress and Cowher had a long talk following Monday's

meeting.
"I think he's matured as a person, (with) his work ethic and his approach to the game," Cowher said.
"If that was the last time I talked to him, I wanted him to know how I felt."

Ravens RB Lewis gets four-month jail term

The Associated Press

Ravens running back Jamal Lewis was sentenced to four months in prison Wednesday for using a cell phone to try to set up a

cocaine deal about 4½ years ago.

The penalty, worked out with prosecutors in October, should allow Lewis to return to the Rayens well before the start of the 2005 season. At most, he might miss the opening of training camp.

He also will spend two months in a halfway house and perform 500 hours of community service following his prison term.

Lewis pleaded guilty to trying to set up the drug deal a few months after the Ravens chose him No. 5 overall in the 2000 NFL Draft. No drugs were exchanged. Prosecutors agreed to drop more serious drug conspiracy and attempted cocaine possession

"I'm truly sorry for what I did," Lewis said to U.S. District Judge Orinda Evans

Explaining the short sentence, the judge said the government didn't have a strong case and noted the only witness against Lewis was an informant with a lengthy criminal record.

Evans said she was also giving Lewis "credit for stepping up to the bar" and admitting his guilt.

The football player has until Feb. 4 to surrender to allow him

time to have a cast removed from his right ankle, the judge said Lewis recently had surgery on

Evans said she will recommend that Lewis serve his time at a federal prison camp at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Ala. If Lewis reports at the latest pos-sible date and does not get time Francisco last year and quarterbacks coach for the 49ers from Four replacements added to Pro Bowl rosters

off for good behavior, the earliest

he would be released from the

The Ravens said the team

would not be commenting on

Tollner joins Lions as

offensive coordinator

Detroit Lions hired Ted Tollner

Wednesday, reuniting him with

The 64-year-old Tollner replac-

es Sherman Lewis, who retired after the regular season. Tollner

was offensive coordinator for San

offensive coordinator on

ALLEN PARK, Mich. -

head coach Steve Mariucci.

halfway house would be Aug. 4.

Lewis' sentence

Atlanta Falcons return special-

ist Allen Rossum was selected to the NFC Pro Bowl squad Wednes day as an injury replacement for Detroit's Eddie Drummond. Miami Dolphins cornerback

Patrick Surtain was added to the AFC squad, replacing injured Baltimore Ravens cornerback Chris McAlister Pittshurgh Steelers defensive

end Aaron Smith and offensive tackle Marvel Smith also were added to the AFC team on Wednesday.
Aaron Smith replaces New

York Jets defensive end John Abraham (knee), and Marvel Smith replaces Kansas City Chiefs offensive tackle Willie Roaf (ankle)

Waldorf and Funk among five Hope Classic leaders

The Associated Press

LA QUINTA, Calif. — Duffy Waldorf rolled in eight birdie putts, didn't make a bogey and still had lots of company aton the leader board.



Waldorf's 8-under 64 in Wednesday's opening round of the Bob Hope Chrysler Classic was only good enough to put him in a

five-way tie for the lead.
Fred Funk, Robert Damron, Ted
Purdy and Joe Ogilvie also opened the
90-hole tournament with 64s.

Fred Couples, the 1998 champion, had a 65 and was in another group of five in the desert tournament in which scores traditionally are among the lowest of the year.

Defending champion Phil Mickelson, who also won the event in 2002, shot 66 and was tied with six others.

Only 13 of the 128 players finished the first round over par.

Mike Weir, the 2003 Hope champion, opened with a 71, leaving him tied for

The players rotate among four courses for the first four days of the pro-am, then the low 70 pros and ties play the final round at PGA West on Sunday.

Waldorf, looking for his first victory in almost five years, began his round at PGA West by rolling in a 6-foot birdie putt on the first hole, then finished it with a fine shot out of the bunker and a 4-foot birdie putt on the final hole.

He was deadly accurate with his irons most of the day, setting up short birdie putts.

"Accuracy and good putting for me today," Waldorf said. "I putted the best I've putted this year, really had good pace on the ball and was reading the greens well.

"I kept the ball in play for the most part, didn't get in a lot of trouble." Couples was pleased with his round.

but cautious about getting too greedy.
"You can't go around thinking you're
going to shoot 7-under out here every
day," he said after his round at Tamarisk
Country Club. "What I'm trying to pay attention to is how I'm hitting the ball.

"What I did today is I really drove the ball well, compared to San Diego, where I was everywhere. Today I hit the ball long and straight and the course

played easy."
Mickelson, coming off a tie for 56th at
Torrey Pines in his 2005 debut, is seek-

ing improvement.
"My short irons, certainly that's an area I need to work on a lot this week," said Mickelson, who beat Skip Kendall in a playoff to win the event last year.
Purdy enjoyed his first round in the

desert event.

"This is the first time I've been eligible to play here," he said. "I've tried to get exemptions in the past, but have not

ble to play here," he said. "Tve tried to get exemptions in the past, but have not been successful at that. I earned my way in this year."

The 31-year-old Purdy, who seems to

be improving with age, said he took birdies as they came during his Hope debut. "When you start forcing birdies, they don't necessarily come," he said after logging eight birdies and no bogeys at

Purdy, who had a pair of second-place finishes last year during his second full season on the tour, particularly enjoyed playing with amateurs during the first round of the Hope.

"The amateurs are the ones that pay my paycheck. They're the ones that support the tour," Purdy said. "It's great to get to play with the people that support us. I have yet to have an amateur partner I didn't enjoy. This is one of our



Actor/comedian George Lopez reads a green during the Bob Hope Classic on Wednesday. Celebrities play with pros during the first four days of the 90-hole event that is played on four courses.

ways of giving back to them."
David Duval shot 10-over 82 at PGA
West, 23 shots more than when he won
the tournament on the final day six
years ago with a tour record-tying 59 on

the same course.

John Daly shot 72 and was tied for

Montgomerie shoots 65, leads by three in Singapore

SINGAPORE — Colin Montgomerie shot 7-under-par 65 Thursday to take a three-stroke lead after the first round of the Caltex Masters.

The defending champion made seven birdies at the Laguna National Golf and Country Club to lead Nick Dougherty, Mark Foster and Danny Chia, who all shot 68. Seven were tied at 69.

More NHL talks yield promise of further talks

The Associated Press

There's no telling how the NHL labor negotiations are going behind closed doors.

For that matter, there's no telling where those doors even are. So closely guarded are the minutest details

from the league's latest round of talks with the players' association, exactly what they're talking about is anyone's guess. The sides held their third meeting in less than

The sides held their third meeting in less than a week Wednesday in Toronto and were successful in keeping the exact location a secret. After the 5½-hour negotiating session, the only detail revealed was that another meeting would take place this week.

Although nothing had been officially scheduled by Wednesday night, the sides were leaning toward getting together either Thursday or Friday in New York.

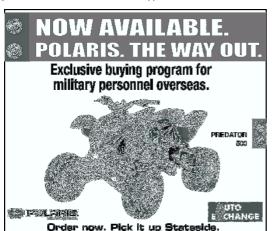
There is no secret that time is running out to save the season. How the NHL and the players' association are working to prevent that has become a big mystery. Talks were held in small groups again on Wednesday, three people representing the union and four on the league side. "We will meet again this week," NHL chief

"We will meet again this week," NHL chief legal officer Bill Daly said. "We have no further comment at this time."

Before getting together this week, both sides took a tight-lipped approach, adding they wanted negotiations to be out of the public eye.

During a two-day meeting last week in Chicago and Toronto, they tried unsuccessfully to get together in secrecy. Both parties believe they will have a better chance of getting something accomplished if they can talk out of the public eye.

Daly told The Associated Press on Tuesday that discussions were at a critical stage and that only days remained to reach a deal that would save the season. The fact that more talks have been set up provided at least a glimmer of hope that the NHL won't become the first North American sport league to lose an entire season to a labor dispute.



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Auburn's Williams grabs spotlight in Senior Bowl BY JOHN ZENOR Williams has met with Dolphins

The Associated Press

MOBILE, Ala. — Carnell Williams has been a center of attention in the Senior Bowl all week, visiting with NFL head coaches, doing nonstop interviews and lobbying hard to become the first tailback picked in April's draft.

His chief competition for that spot, Auburn teammate Ronnie Brown and Texas' Cedric Benson, opted to skip the showcase game for top senior NFL prospects.

The Tigers thrived with Williams and Brown splitting time in the backfield, though it meant neither had gaudy statistics.

"I definitely want to get my share of carries and be the feature back and bring some team that I play on to the Super Bowl in the near future," said Williams, a second-team AP All-American as a senior.

He and California's J.J. Arrington are the two most high-profile backs in Saturday's game. Kay-Jay Harris of West Virginia and Tennessee's Cedric Houston are among those joining Williams in the South team's backfield. Kansas State's 5-foot-5 sparkplug Darren Sproles is one of the North's running backs. Williams has met with Dolphins coach Nick Saban and spent plent yof time with the Bucs' Jon Gruden, coach of the South team. Both have top-free picks and are in the market for a tailback. Williams has enthusiastically praised both teams and coaches.

Gruden likes Williams' skills.

"He can stop on a dime. He can go from here to there as well as a tot of people," Gruden said. "He's a good kid. You watch him score touchdowns inside the 5 as a short-yardage runner, he runs with power. He's just a hell of a back if you ask me."

Williams said he didn't follow Brown or Benson in turning down invitations because, "I just want to be the No. 1 back once I leave here.

"Between now and April, anything could happen, anything could change," said Williams, who broke Bo Jackson's record at Auburn with 45 rushing touchdowns and finished second in career yards rushing.

"I'm not getting my heart sold on going to Miami or going to the Bucs, because I know this is a business. Whatever happens, I'm just excited."

Underachieving Nuggets hire Karl

The Associated Press

DENVER — George Karl was hired as head coach of the Denver Nuggets on Thursday, returning to the NBA after nearly two years to take over a team that has failed to live up to lofty expectations.

The deal was finalized Thursday morning and announced in Milwaukee, where the Nuggets play the Bucks on Friday night.
Karl is expected to be on the bench for that

game, making his debut with the Nuggets against the team that fired him in 2003.

Interim coach Michael Cooper will stay on

as an assistant

"We are very excited to be adding a coach of copie's stature to our organization," Denver general manager Kiki Vandeweghe said in a statement. "He has won everywhere he has been and his track record speaks for itself. We also want to commend Michael for the iob he did under difficult circumstances."

Denver started the season as a favorite in the Western Conference after adding All-Star power forward Kenyon Martin to a team that was coming off its first playoff appearance in played to the conference of the conference in

The Nuggets still haven't lived up to that potential, entering Friday's game 17-25 and 12½ games out of first place in the Northwest Divi-

Ref admits fixing German soccer games

FRANKFURT, Germany — A German soccer referee admitted to fixing games and said Thursday he was ready to cooperate with prosecutors to clear up the sport's biggest scandal in the country in more than 30 years.

"The accusations made against me in the public are true," referee Robert Hoyzer said in a statement issued by his lawyer.

"I regret my behavior profoundly and I excuse myself to the German soccer federation, my referee colleagues and all soccer fans," the statement said

The German soccer federation accused Hoyzer of manipulating the outcomes of at least five games in Germany's lower divisions and the German Cup after betting on them. He initially denied the charges.

"We are shocked; we never thought something like this was possible," said Volker Roth, the federation's supervisor of referees. "But there is nothing you can do against criminal

Rudi Assauer, general manager of first-division club Schalke, said, "This case is exactly what should not be happening one year before

BY RONALD BLUM

The Associated Press

New York Mets can count on: Doug Mientkiewicz knows how to

hang onto a baseball

NEW YORK - This much the

The Mets acquired the former

Gold Glove first baseman from

the Red Sox on Wednesday for

minor league first baseman Ian

Bladergroen, and Mientkiewicz

said he intends to loan Boston the



he World Cup." Germany is hosting the

2006 World Cup.
The German soccer federation (DFB) plans to ban

betting on games by referees and will install an "early warning system" to find out when usually high sums are bet on a specific game.

Hoyzer said he had given a "comprehensive, no-holds-barred account of everything he knew about the case and persons involved in it" to his lawyer, Stephan Holthoff-Proert-

ner.

The N24 television news channel said Hoyzer had implicated others and acknowledged the existence of an organized crime betting group.

According to a television channel in Berlin, TV.BERLIN, Hoyzer received a "five-digit" sum to manipulate games.

The German magazine Stern reported Wednesday that Hoyzer had regular contact with organized criminals from Croatia involved in betting. The DFB said it had also heard of such reports but had no means of verifying them.

On Wednesday, the DFB filed charges against Hoyzer with Berlin prosecutors, who are examining the case.

are examining the case.

Hoyzer said he was willing to testify before state prosecutors and the DFB.

BYU player accused of lying to police will transfer PROVO, Utah — Wide receiver Antwaun

Harris, accused of lying to police investigating rape allegations against other Brigham Young football players, will transfer from BYU, the school amounced.

The Garland, Texas, native had 17 receptions for 149 yards last season.

He and defensive back Billy Skinner, 19, were suspended last month after lesser charges were lodged against them related to the rape investigation. Four other players were accused of rape and were suspended by BYU for one year.

The charge against Harris of providing false information to police is a second-degree felony.

"In response to the new direction this program is taking, with an increase in both accountability and discipline," Antwuan has decided to pursue his football career at another university," coach Bronco Mendenhall said Wednesday. "He has my full support."

Mets get Mientkiewicz, Red Sox get his ball

Gatti ready to defend title against Leija

NEW YORK — In a manner matching his aggressive fighting style, Arturo Gatti simply presented his plan for his upcoming title bout against Jesse James Leiia.

"I'm coming to kill — not to win, to kill," the WBC super lightweight champion said at a news conference Wednesday. "I'm going to win this fight, no doubt about it. Read my lips: No doubt about it."

Gatti is certainly known for his action-packed fights. His trilogy with Mickey Ward is touted by many as one of the best rivalries in boxing history, and he is consistently praised for the heart and courage he shows in the ring.

It's that kind of action that fans will be looking for from Saturday night's scheduled 12-round fight at Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City. The fight will also be telecast as part of HBO's "World Championship Boxing Series."

The 32-year-old Gatti, 38-6 with 29 knockouts, won the title in January 2004, when he decisioned Italian Gianluca Branco. He kept the crown in July with a one-punch knockout of previously unbeaten Leonard Dorin.

Leija, 38, is 47-6-2 with 18 knockouts.

FBI agents raid Conte home

SAN FRANCISCO — FBI agents raided the home of alleged steroid dealer Victor Conte and seized e-mail and other records Wednesday as part of an investigation of grand jurny testimony leaks in a broad sports-doping scan-

dal, according to newspaper reports.

Al according to newspaper reports.

Al teast a dozen agents raided Contre's San Mateo, Calif, home before 8 a.m., and within four hours seized a computer, cellular phone and lab records belonging to the founder of the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative, the San Francisco Chronicle and San Jose Mercury News reported on their Web sites, each citing sources they did not identify.

The search comes a month after a series of newspaper and online reports about the 2003 grand jury testimony of San Francisco Giants slugger Barry Bonds, New York Yankees first baseman Jason Giambi, and track star Tim Montgomery. Grand jury testimony is supposed to be secret.

According to the newspapers, agents were also looking for items involving track coaches Trevor Graham of Raleigh, N.C., and John Smith of Los Angeles. FBI agents were also trying to find records to prove that Conte leaked information to journalists.

Duke: Terps 'wanted it' more, stole road win

DUKE, FROM BACK PAGE

J.J. Redick led the Blue Devils with 20 points but also had eight turnovers, including two within seconds in the final minutes. Shelden Williams added 18

points and 14 rebounds.

"You have to take your hats off

to Maryland," said Duke guard Daniel Ewing, who was held to nine points. "We didn't match their hunger. They wanted it a little bit more, and that's why they walked out of here with a win."

Top-ranked Illinois (20-0) and No. 8 Boston College (17-0) are the only teams left without a loss. Duke seemingly was in control

Buke seemingly was in control early in the second half, taking a pair of eight-point leads, the final one on a layup by Lee Melchionni. Ewing set it up with a nifty touch pass off a rebound, and it was 42-34.

Caner-Medley quickly led the rally. He made two free throws, then followed with a three-pointer and a jumper to cut the margin to four. Later, he added a putback to make it 47-46, and Chris Mccray gave the Terps their first lead of the second half with a layup.

That was the first of five lead

changes in the final 13½ minutes. "I just think he overpowered us a few times," Coach K said. "If

a few times," Coach K said. "If there's one thing that won the game, it was that his desire to win was great. He put on a hell of a performance."

Ewing swished a three to put the Blue Devils ahead 58-54, but Caner-Medley responded with one of his own from several feet beyond the arc, with Redick right in his face. Caner-Medley had his final points from in close with 3:45 left to give Maryland a 64-60 lead, then left for good about 2 minutes later.

Redick had a steal at midcourt and was driving for a layup, with Caner-Medley racing back to try to stop it. They leaped together, and Redick's left-handed attempt never touched the rim

But Caner-Medley made it only a few steps toward the other end before falling to grab his left ankle in agony. He went to the bench, and after Shavilk Randolph tied it one final time by following up a missed free throw by Shelden Williams, Ibekwe helped the Terns will

"I think that you have to win a game against a quality team during the year to have credibility and believing that you're a good team," Gary Williams said. "I'm not saying that because we won, I just think that those guys have maxed out incredibly well.

"I'm sure they're very proud of what they've done."

keep it and give it to the fans and let them see it "

Mientkiewicz said he will not receive any money under the deal and "probably" would get the ball back after a year. "Ownership has not been re-

solved," Boston owner John Henry said in an e-mail to The Associated Press.

Mientkiewicz emphasized that

Mientkiewicz emphasized that he's "doing everything they asked me to do."

"I didn't expect all of this with the ball," he added. "Sometime in life you think you're doing the right thing and it doesn't turn out that way. That's kind of what happened here. I didn't think it was going to come out to this. Like I said, I gave Derek Lowe the Game 7 ball from the ALCS, and

no one seems to want that one."

He already knows what he would do if the Mets come within three outs of a World Series title.

"I'll probably ask before the ninth inning: 'What do you guys want me to do with this?' " he According to Red Sox General Manager Theo Epstein, "the ball issue was never a factor in this trade or in this negotiating process. We had a baseball decision to make."

New York obtained Mientk-

iewicz one day after Carlos Delgado accepted the Florida Marlins' \$52 million, four-year offer, spurning a similar proposal from New York.

"I'm honored the fact that I was probably second or third option," Mientkiewicz said. "There's things that I bring to the table that he doesn't."

With the Red Sox, Mientkiewicz was used in the postseason as a late-inning replacement for Kevin Millar, the extroverted first baseman whom Epstein called "an integral part of our clubhouse chemistry."

"Both guys are everyday, winning first basemen in my mind," Epstein said. "I wish you could combine them. But in the end, I think to be fair to both guys it was the right thing to do to put them in a position where they could get a chance to play every day."

Mientkiewicz came up to the major leagues with Minnesota in 1998 and was dealt to the Red Sox last July 31. A career .272 hitter, he slumped to a combined .238 with six homers and 35 RBIs last year for the Twins and Red Sox. "I'm not 38 years old trying to

In mo as years ou trying to man on to a career. I feel like I've got a lot of good years left, "Mient-kiewicz said. "When I got over there, my intention was to play every day. But under the circumstances, Kevin got hot. I never quite got back in there, but I accepted my role because I knew it would be better for the team. I knew I could do it for three months."

New York thinks Mientkiewicz will help its young infield, which includes third baseman David Wright, shortstop Jose Reyes and second baseman Kaz Matsui.

"It just makes our defense that much better," Mets general manager Omar Minaya said.

ball he caught for the final out of the World Series. The 30-year-old Mientkiewicz, who won the 2001 AL Gold Glove with Minnesota, said Boston asked to have the ball for one

"There was never a fight, there was never words exchanged. It was very cordial, and we worked something out," he said, "I want the fans to see it, and that's what both the Red Sox and I agreed on. They waited a long time to see that ball and to live it. The fact that I had it was just so we could

year, and he intends to comply.

BC edges Providence to remain unbeaten



Boston College's Jared Dudley drives to the basket around Providence's Ryan Gomes during the second half on Wednesday. Dudley scored 21 points to help the Eagles extend their unbeaten streak to 17 games.

The Associated Pres

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — The Boston College Eagles believe something special is happening this season and it's not luck either

Jared Dudley scored 21 points and hit a three-pointer with 1:20 left to give Boston College the lead, and the No. 8 Eagles remained undefeated with a 78-75 victory over Providence on Wednesday night.

Boston College (17-0, 6-0 Big East) has the best record in school history in the regular season and conference play.

"It's just something about us," Craig Smith, who also scored 21 points, said. "We just have a feeling we can't lose right now. We always go into each game feeling we should win."

Boston College and No. 1 Illinois are the only undefeated teams left in Division I. No. 2 Duke lost for the first time Wednesday night, falling 75-66 to

Maryland.
Donnie McGrath led Providence (9-9, 0-5) with 17 points, matching his season high, and made five three-pointers. Leading scorer Ryan Gomes was held to 13 points on 5-for-14 shooting.

Providence has lost five straight.
A three-pointer by McGrath
gave the Friars a 75-71 lead with
3-19 left in the game. BC's Jermaine Watson then hit a floater
from the baseline to draw the Eagles within two. The teams traded
turnovers before Dudley's
three-pointer from the left wing
put BC in front.

"He's exploded this year," Smith said of Dudley, who also led the Eagles with 12 rebounds and added six assists. "He should be a name people should be talking about. That shot shows how much poise he has, and he's willing to take big shots."



Providence's Dwight Brewington missed a three-pointer with less than a minute left, but Gomes grabbed the rebound. He whirled in the lane, but got caught in the air with two defenders on him and turned the ball over.

Watson made one free throw to give BC a 77-75 lead, but missed the second to give Providence a chance with 31 seconds left. DeSean White missed a jumper with 10 seconds remaining, and Dudley hit a free throw two seconds later to give Boston College a three-point lead.

White said he was looking for Gomes from the moment he touched the ball.

"By the time I looked down [in the lane], there was a double [team] on him, and I had to do something," said White, who finished with eight points. "So, I shot. I make that nine out of 10

After Dudley's free throw, Boston College used a foul to take some time off the clock, and McGrath's three-point attempt was off the mark as time expired.

"Our kids fought hard, but I thought BC did a better job in the last couple of minutes, taking better shots while our kids took some questionable shots," Providence coach Tim Welsh said.

Providence led 41-38 at the break. Two three-pointers by Gomes and a basket by Brewington, followed by a three-pointer by McGrath, gave the Friars their biggest lead of the game at 55-44 less than four minutes into the second half. A three-point play by Smith and two baskets by Sean

Marshall got Boston College within four less than two minutes later. Neither team led by more than four points in the final 12

minutes.

"We didn't get in a panic or a frenzy," Watson said. "We just executed. We didn't get nervous. We knew we were going to come back."

No. 12 Louisville 99, Marquette 52: At Louisville, Ky., Larry O'Bannon made six three-pointers and scored 30 points, both career highs, to help Louisville (17-3, 5-1 Conference USA) hand Marquette its worst-ever loss.

Todd Townsend had 17 points for Marquette (14-5, 2-4). The 47-point margin topped the previous mark of 45 in a 57-12 loss to Creighton in 1940.

No. 14 Alabama 60, Auburn 55: At Auburn, Ala, Earnest Shelton scored 22 points and made five late three-pointers to lead Alabama to its fourth straight victory over Auburn.

The Crimson Tide (16-3, 5-1 Southeastern Conference) held on after Auburn (9-9, 0-5) had cut a 15-point deficit to one.

Northwestern 75, No. 23 lows 74 (OT): At Evanston, Ill., Michael Jenkins' three-pointer at the overtime buzzer hit the rin bounced high and fell through to give Northwestern (9-9, 2-4 Big Ten) a stunning victory. The Wildcats rallied from 12 down with 3-27 to go in regulation.

Northwestern's Vedran Vukusic sent it to overtime when he hit three free throws after being fouled on a three-point attempt with 13.8 seconds left. He finished with a career-high 32 points, 13 in the final two minutes of regulation.

Greg Brunner had a career-high 28 points for Iowa (14-5, 2-4).

Huskies continue to climb under Romar

BY TIM KORTE
The Associated Press

SEATTLE — Since he took over at Washington three years ago, coach Lorenzo Romar has regularly cited Arizona as the Pac-10 team program he most wanted to emulate.

Well, just look at those rising Huskies These days, they share a remarkable resemblance to Lute Olson's Wildcats.

After breaking a five-year NCAA tournament absence last season, Washington (16-2, 6-1) is ranked No. 10 going into Thursday night's showdown at No. 11 Arizona (16-3, 6-1).

In this week's RPI ratings, the Wildcats are No. 6 and the Huskies are No. 7. Its just another area where Romar believes his program is approaching Arizona's level.

"Arizona has been doing what they do

for 16 or 17 years," Romar said. "I don't think we'll have to wait another 16 years. If we're able to sustain this for a few more years, then I'll be able to say, 'Yeah, we've elevated it."

Washington historically wasn't a force in the Pac-10, yielding to Arizona, Stanford and UCLA. But there's no question the Huskies — a talented, unselfish squad — are contenders now.

They have their best record in 29 years, since coach Marv Harshman's team opened the 1975-76 season 17-1. The Hus44 They have great depth, and without a doubt they are the most athletic team in the conference, with us being second.

Lute Olson

Arizona coach kies have won 18 straight at home, the

school's longest such streak in 20 years.
"They are playing lights out. They have great depth and without a doubt they are the most athletic team in the conference, with us being second," Olson said. "They have great quickness. We have better size. It will be a good game."

Washington's lineup includes athletic guard Nate Robinson, standout shooter Tre Simmons, defensive stopper Bobby Jones and steady point guard Will Conroy. Off the bench, it's rebounder Jamaal Williams.

"Coach Romar has prepared us very well. He has given us a formula to win," Corroy said. "It's team chemistry. The set of guys we have, we really like each other. We really believe in each other."

The Huskies also have Brandon Roy, who's back after tearing a knee ligament

when Washington won the Great Alaska Shootout in November, beating current Top 25 teams Alabama, Oklahoma and Utah

Arguably the team's most versatile player, Roy was a Seattle high school star who considered going straight to the NBA. Ultimately, he picked Washington over Arizo-

"My dad said, 'You know if you pass on Arizona and go to Washington, every time Arizona beats you, it's going to eat at you.' So every time I play Arizona, I've got a chip on my shoulder," Roy said with a laugh.

Huskies fans weren't chuckling in recent years when talented in-state players left. Jamal Crawford went to Michigan, Donny Marshall to Connecticut and Luke Ridnour to Oregon. Jason Terry and Michoel el Dickerson played for Olson at Arizona.

Times are changing, though.
Four Huskies starters are from Seattle
and the suburbs. In November, Romar's
staff landed seven heralded recruits —
three key in-state players. One recruiting

service listed the class No. 4 in the country. Forward Jon Brockman from Snohom-ish, Wash., picked Washington over Duke, and forward Martell Webster of Seattle Prep is considered the Pac-10's top incoming recruit and No. 5 in the nation by one scouting service.

"If we had a losing season last year, we'd still have been able to get some good players but not nearly the class we have."



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In his third year at Washington, Lorenzo Romar is getting his program closer to emulating Arizona. Thursday's opponent.

Romar said. "It shows we're headed in the right direction. People are starting to believe in us."

Win or lose in the desert this week, the Huskies are rising.

Huskies are rising.

They've won 12 of their last 13, including three straight. Arizona is remarkably similar, winning four in a row and 13 of 14.

"Our goal wasn't to finish eighth every

year," Romar said. "Our goal was eventually to be in contention to win the Pac-10."

Just like Arizona.

SPORTS



Injured Owens deserves an MVP award for helping fill a two-week void. Page 28

Duke gets dumped

Alumni-inspired Terps upset No. 2 Blue Devils

The Associated Press

DURHAM, N.C. - Maryland coach Gary Williams brought in a few experts before facing second-ranked Duke.

Former stars Steve Blake Juan Divon and Laron Profit visited practice this week. giving the current Terrapins a few lessons. They talked about having fun, about believing in themselves and about giving a full effort against the undefeated Blue Devils.

"That was huge," forward Nik Caner-Medley said. "That was the hardest we practiced all year.

Caner-Medley and his teammates carried that message to the game, giving Mary-

land an improbable upset. The junior had 25 points before leaving with an ankle injury, and Travis Garrison

and Ekene Ibekwe finished off the Blue Devils at the free-throw line in a 75-66 victory Wednesday night.

The Terrapins (12-5, 3-3 Atlantic Coast Conference) lost three of their previous five games, all by at least 15 points. But they hung with Duke (15-1, 5-1) through-out and allowed only two points in the final 31/2 minutes

"I just thought they played a little bit harder than we did," Blue Devils coach Mike Krzyzewski said. "We didn't have the attitude that we've had the entire year. This team has to have an edge all the

Ibekwe gave Maryland the lead for good with a tough layup in traffic off an inbounds play set up by Williams during a

That made it 66-64 with 1:23 left, and the

Blue Devils had no answer.

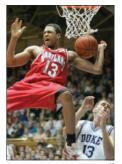
Daniel Ewing missed badly on a three-pointer, and Garrison started a parade at the line for the Terps. Garrison was 5-for-6 in the final minute and Ibekwe was 4-for-4 to close it out.

"It was all about the players," Williams said. "We struggled a little bit this year with our identity, for whatever reason, and I'll take responsibility for it, but we do have pride in our program."

Ibekwe came off the bench for the first time this season and scored 15 points. John Gilchrist had 10 for Maryland.

"To be on a big stage like this and get the win is huge," Caner-Medley said. "My teammates had so much heart. I really was

impressed with them." SEE DUKE ON PAGE 30



Maryland's Chris McCray gets a slam dunk over Duke's Lee Melchionni during the second half of the Terps' upset victory Wednesday at Cameron Indoor Stadium.

Highs and lows Down Under





Top-seeded Roger Federer, left, had his 26-match winning streak stopped by Marat Safin in a classic 41/2-hour match in the Autralian Open semifinals. Serena Williams, right, also played a memorable match, beating Maria Sharapova in a third-set tiebreaker. See details on Page 25.



BC escapes Providence with 17th straight win Page 31



Determined James overcomes injury to aid Cavs' win

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